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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, what's your level of confidence in the Board of Regents' choice of Dr. Christa Adams as the next NMC president?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE



Saving Turtles

A new conservation group sells seven artworks and raises \$305 for sea turtles.

LOCAL...Page 7



Tornado Assault

A massive tornado blasts its way across Missouri, flattening homes and businesses.

NATION...Page 14



Dylan Turns 70

Bob Dylan won't be celebrating his 70th birthday onstage. What will he do?

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

**Lawyer slams OAG for 'lax attitude' in prosecuting crimes. PAGE 3
House lawmaker cautions NMC board in hiring Adams. PAGE 5**

ACCORDING TO BUCK CONSULTANT

Steep benefit cuts key to Fund survival

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The key to ensuring the NMI Retirement Fund's survival lies in cutting members' benefits across the board and eliminating the annual cost-of-living adjustment and bonuses to members, according to the Fund and its actuarial rate consultant, Buck Consultants.

This was based on "snapshots" presented yesterday at the board's special meeting, during which the Fund was

presented six options that would bring its investment funds into balance.

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Tinian Dynasty months behind again in paying workers' wages

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While a payless payday was averted at the last minute for some 20 Tinian municipal employees on Friday, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino employees were not as lucky as they have yet to get their paychecks for the second payroll in February.

Many of Tinian Dynasty's employees also got paid on May 19—but that was for their first payroll in February.

Employees said yesterday they have yet to get their paychecks for the second

See WAGES on Page 4

FLAT ON ITS BACK

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A police officer stands near a blue Toyota Corolla sedan that turned turtle at the Beach Road pathway across Moylan's Insurance yesterday afternoon. No one was seriously injured. Police are still looking into the cause of the accident.



THC not ready for DPH takeover

» **Mayor laments lack of representation in transition team**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Tinian Mayor Ramon Dela Cruz said the Tinian Health Center is not ready for the Oct. 1 takeover by the Department of Public Health and this could harm rather than help the island's residents.

"I have serious doubts that it will work. Without the needed funds to run all these facilities, there's no way they can run the

See THC on Page 4

Saipan lawmakers take 11 months to pass \$3.464M bill for scholarship, pet projects

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Saipan lawmakers took 11 months before finally passing last night a local bill

appropriating a total of \$3.464 million in poker license fees to fund the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance and other pet projects.

When Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan)

introduced House Local Bill 17-33 on June 18, 2010, the initial appropriation amount was \$3.26 million. By yesterday's session of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation—more

than 11 months and over 20 floor amendments later—the amount was at \$3.464 million.

The four-hour session, which lasted

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4



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Local

From \$1.8M, govt now owes trader \$2.8M

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The CNMI government's liability to a businessman for breaching a building lease in 1997 has gone up from just \$1.8 million eight years ago to \$2.8 million now, according to Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman.

Wiseman said yesterday that Joaquin M. Manglona's evidence about his actual loss is uncontested, and the testimony of certified public accountant J. Scott Magliari and the method used to establish Manglona's actual loss is not unreasonable.

"No post-judgment interest will be awarded since interest does not accrue against a state's

debts absent the state's consent," the judge said in the order.

Wiseman said the government owes Manglona \$1,826,838 in original principal judgment amount; \$376,654.69 in additional prejudgment interest, financial charges and penalties; \$414,403.30 in additional costs and losses; and \$196,542.57 in lost opportunity, for a total of \$2,814,438.56 as of Nov. 10, 2010.

Manglona filed a \$2.3 million lawsuit against the government in 1997 for alleged nonpayment of lease rentals of the building previously occupied by the then CNMI Immigration and Naturalization Office.

The government countersued,

demanding that Manglona return rental payments amounting to \$697,325. The government argued that Manglona was not entitled to payments because the lease agreement was unauthorized. The Superior Court dismissed the government's counter-suit.

In 2003, Wiseman issued an order that found the government to have breached its building lease to Manglona. He awarded Manglona \$1.8 million plus post-judgment interest.

Both parties appealed.

In January 2007, Wiseman amended the award of damages and determined that the government is liable to pay \$1.4 million to Manglona.

In June 2010, the CNMI Su-

preme Court upheld the Superior Court's ruling but found that the prejudgment interest rate awarded was not enough to compensate Manglona for his actual losses.

The Supreme Court remanded the case to the Superior Court to determine an adequate interest rate that would compensate Manglona for actual losses.

With the high court's ruling, Wiseman conducted an evidentiary hearing on Dec. 2, 2010, and Jan. 31, 2011. Attorney Douglas F. Cushnie served as counsel for Manglona. Assistant attorney general James T. Mitchell appeared for the government.

Wiseman issued the order regarding the hearing yesterday.

NMI Museum gets \$19K for artifacts' storage

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed into law yesterday a bill giving \$19,124 to the NMI Museum of History and Culture so it can properly store artifacts, many of which are currently stockpiled in almost all vacant spaces in and outside the museum in Garapan.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) said this would go a long way in helping the museum—the main repository of all historical materials related to CNMI history.

Tebuteb's House Bill 17-167, House Draft 1 is now Public Law 17-42. The bill, however, is seen as a temporary solution "until such time as a permanent facility is constructed."

The NMI Museum vacated this year their rental storage fa-

cility because of financial constraints, forcing it to keep all artifacts in the museum. With the new funding, the museum plans to buy, among other things, two containers where they can store the historical materials.

Fitial's newly signed legislation takes the \$19,124 from the Saipan Trust Fund, to be given to the NMI Museum.

Tebuteb also said there is a significant collection of artifacts originally from Tinian that are subject to a consent decree governing their care and subject to an annual care and condition assessment. He said there are other historic collections whose care is also governed by contractual requirements and memorandums of agreement.

With tourism as the main CNMI industry, Tebuteb said more funds should be invested

to attract visitors and this includes funding the museum "as part of their package to learn a little about the history of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands."

\$40,500 for Rota

The governor also signed into local law yesterday a local bill giving \$40,500 in poker license fees to Rota patients, scholars, athletes, and government employees who are eligible to receive retroactive pay under Public Law 7-31, as well as other programs and activities.

House Local Bill 17-43, authored by Rep. Teresita Santos (Ind-Rota), is now Rota Local Law 17-13.

Of the \$40,500 appropriated, \$8,100 will be for nine dialysis and terminally ill patients at \$450 each for April and May 2011.

The new local law gives \$3,600 to six dialysis and terminally ill patients at \$300 each for April and May.

Another \$10,000 will be used to renovate the Rota Liaison Guest House and buy beds, air conditioners and refrigerators, among other things, for the rooms.

A total of \$2,250 will go to the Rota Municipal Scholarship Foundation. Another \$2,250 will be for the retroactive compensation of affected employees under Public Law 7-31.

The new law also gives \$9,300 for the operations of the Rota Mayor's Office, including payments to Paradise Hotel for housing Rota medical referral patients, payment for car rental leases and other purposes.

It also gives \$5,000 to the CNMI Little League District Tournament, which will be held on Rota on May 27 to 30.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

May is Tourism Month in the Northern Marianas, and throughout the month Tourism Tuesday features your opinions on timely tourism topics.

May marks the 13th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, held every Saturday throughout the month from 6-10 p.m. at American Memorial Park and sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority in partnership with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

What local food would you encourage a visitor to try?

Chicken kelaguen, because it's yummy! Or poke.

Jae Randles, left, and husband



Red rice, because when I think of it, I think of Saipan. It's so local and so yummy.

Kahra Atalig, right, and friends



"You know apigigi, the one they wrap in banana leaves?

I would recommend that because it's not from another country, it's from the islands. Even people from Guam come here and get it because it has a distinct flavor...or ice keki!"

Jerome Chin



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KAGMAN RAPE CASE

Lawyer slams OAG for 'lax attitude' in prosecuting crimes

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court should not allow the Office of the Attorney General to keep flouting the rules and continuing with its lax attitude toward the prosecution of crimes, according to the lawyer for a suspect in the Kagman rape case.

Joseph James Norita Camacho, counsel for defendant Angel Jess Santos, said the government failed to follow procedures and should not be allowed to oppose his client's motion to withdraw a guilty plea.

Guam lawyer told to explain why she should not also be suspended in NMI

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has ordered attorney Stephanie G. Flores to explain why the Supreme Court of Guam's judgment that suspended her from the practice of law for 60 days should not also be imposed by the federal court.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Consuelo B. Marshall said the federal court has received a copy of a judgment of the Supreme Court of Guam.

Marshall directed Flores to show cause why the imposition of the same discipline by the federal court would be unwarranted.

Flores was given 30 days to show cause.

"Failure to respond shall constitute acquiescence to the imposition of reciprocal discipline," said Marshall in the order issued Friday.

Guam Supreme Court justices suspended Flores in February 2011 "for an indefinite period of time, but not less than two years,

Court orders sale of land surveyor's property to collect \$153.783K debt

The federal court's clerk of court yesterday directed the U.S. Marshal to sell a Tinian lot owned by land surveyor Candido I. Castro to satisfy a judgment against him for a 1999 mail fraud conviction.

In a writ of execution, U.S. District Court for the NMI's clerk of court Galo L. Perez directed the U.S. Marshal to sell the 4,185-square-meter property located in Marpo, Tinian.

Any amount beyond the \$153,783.68 that Castro owes will be turned over to the Bankruptcy Chapter 7 trustee, Mark Heath, pursuant to the court-approved stipulation between the U.S. government, Castro, Heath, and Curtis Ching as assistant U.S. trustee.

In April 2002, Castro was sentenced to eight months in prison and ordered to pay \$130,100 in monetary penalties for mail fraud.

Camacho said the deadline for the government to file its opposition to his client's motion to withdraw was May 6, 2011.

"No email or phone call to defense counsel was made requesting for an extension for additional time. No motion was filed by the government requesting from the court for an extension for additional time," the lawyer said.

Instead, he said, the government filed and served its opposition 11 days after the deadline and that no explanation was given or offered to justify why it did not comply with rules.

On another occasion, he said, the government represented it was ready to proceed to trial, only to later ask for an extension because the prosecution was not ready.

Another alleged misrepresentation was when the government said it will re-file charges

with all but 60 days suspended."

Flores was accused of accepting money from her clients and then neglecting their cases. Six ethics complaints were filed against her in Guam.

The justices said she committed misconduct by violating the Guam Rules of professional conduct dealing with competence, diligence, fees, communication, and candor toward the tribunal, among other things.

The justices required her to pay over \$10,000 in restitution to six clients and serve no less than three years of probation before she can seek full reinstatement.

In July 2007, then CNMI press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. disclosed that he filed a complaint before the CNMI Bar Association against Flores for alleged unprofessional and unethical conduct.

Reyes said that, as executor of the estate of Charles P. Reyes, he hired Flores as his counsel but the lawyer abandoned the case, leaving him exposed to a lawsuit. It was not clear what happened to that complaint.

Guam Supreme Court justices suspended Flores in February 2011 "for an indefinite period of time, but not less than two years,

against Santos' three co-defendants within a month, only to find out that the OAG has not done anything five months later.

"To continue to allow the government to oppose and argue against the merits of the defendant's motion to withdraw his guilty plea would be to continue to enable and encourage the government to flout the rules and continue with the government's lax attitude toward the prosecution of crimes," he said.

If Santos had known that the government will dismiss the cases against his co-defendants—Joseph Camacho Jr., Alfred P. Hocog, and Ivan Jones Castro—Santos would probably not have entered his plea,

Camacho said.

He said a plain reading of the Commonwealth Rules of Criminal Procedure gives a defendant the right to withdraw his guilty plea to correct "manifest injustice."

Assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher said that Santos' attempt to withdraw his guilty plea is without merit and the court should move ahead with the sentencing.

Santos and his co-defendants were accused of accosting a then 16-year-old Kagman High School student in June last year and then raping her at Tank Beach.

Santos admitted to being one of the four but claimed he only served as a lookout as one

of them raped the girl. He immediately pleaded guilty to the charge of conspiracy to commit sexual assault in the first degree as part of a plea agreement.

Santos has been in detention since his arrest on June 18, 2010.

In December 2010, the OAG moved to dismiss without prejudice the case against Joseph Camacho Jr., Hocog, and Castro. The court granted the motion.

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Life in Motion

Bordallo returns from 3-country trip

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo recently returned to Washington, D.C., following a five-day fact finding mission to Israel, Afghanistan, and Germany.

The Congressional Delegation was led by Congressman Randy Forbes of Virginia, and also included Congressman Randy Hultgren of Illinois, and Congressman Mark Critz of Pennsylvania.

The Congressional Delegation met with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and U.S. Ambassador to

Israel James B. Cunningham to discuss diplomatic efforts in the country. While in Afghanistan, the Members received local and regional political, military, and economic updates from General David Petraeus, U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry, and several other high ranking military officials. The Delegation also visited military installations in Germany, and the Congresswoman met with several servicemembers from Guam during her trip.

"I always appreciate the opportu-

nity to meet with our men and women from Guam who are serving our country in harms way," said Bordallo. "During this trip, our delegation received informative briefs about the progress made in bringing stability to the region. We discussed bilateral issues with our allies in Israel, and we discussed the challenges affecting U.S. military operations in Afghanistan. The trip also helped us gain a better understanding of the needs of our servicemembers who are serving our country in theater." (PR)

LAWMAKERS

From Page 1

until 6:10pm, was spent mostly on introducing, discussing and debating floor amendments and session breaks.

HLB 17-33, D7 now heads to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial.

"The governor is highly likely to exercise his line item veto," said Yumul, who is also the chairman of the delegation's Ways and Means Committee that reviewed the bill.

Yumul told his colleagues that their proposals on where to spend the poker license revenue totaled \$3.464 million, which is already close to the total projected collection of \$3.510 million for fiscal year 2011.

He said there could be as many as 47 machines that won't be licensed or renewed this year, although lawmakers are hoping they would be licensed between now and the end of the fiscal year. Each Saipan machine's license fee is \$6,000.

House minority leader Diego Benavente (R-Saipan) said there should be a "cushion" because not all the poker machines could be renewed or licensed in 2011.

Regardless of the threat of poker machines not being licensed this year, Saipan lawmakers took turns offering proposals how to spend the poker license fees.

Of the total amount appropriated, majority or \$3 million will be for SHEFA's scholarship checks. Another \$100,000 will be for SHEFA's operations and personnel.

The rest goes to at least 17 other programs and pet projects, including



Saipan lawmakers discuss House Local Bill 17-33 during yesterday's session.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

\$25,000 for the Little League, \$20,000 for the Flame Tree Arts Festival, and \$10,000 for the upcoming Pacific Mini Games.

Among the latest floor amendments that added to the total cost of appropriation was Rep. Ray Palacios (Cov-Saipan) proposed \$50,000 for the Northern Marianas Trade Institute. Members adopted this amendment.

Delegation chair Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) proposed a new \$10,000 appropriation for the Pacific Games bidding committee, which got the members' nod.

Rep. Frank Dela Cruz's (R-Saipan) proposed \$5,000 for the Flame Tree Arts Festival's insurance premium was also adopted.

Rep. Stanley Torres' (Ind-Saipan) proposal to reinstate \$10,000 for the Saipan Fishing Derby was also adopted. Other members had wanted this given to other projects.

Vice Speaker Felicidad Oguromo

(Cov-Saipan) offered to give \$15,000 for the Northern Islands Development Summit, which some members said could be inappropriate in this time of austerity.

Four of the 18 members present voted against Oguromo's amendment, saying there have already been Northern Islands development plans gathering dust on the shelf and that \$15,000 is too much for a summit. But when voting came, 12 said "yes" and one abstained.

The \$15,000 came from the \$10,000 that was originally for the Saipan Fishing Derby, which Rep. Stanley Torres later successfully reinstated, and \$5,000 originally for the Division of Youth Services' 30th anniversary celebration.

Other events and programs funded were the construction of bus shelters on Precincts 1 and 5, maintenance of the Oleai Sports Complex, Agricultural Fair, Saipan Zoning, Liberation Day activities, Boy Scouts, Neighborhood Watch program, and grounds maintenance equipment for public schools.

municipalities.

Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez is currently off-island and could not be reached for comments. He earlier disclosed that the department expects revenue to reach between \$18 million and \$23 million next fiscal year. This amount, he said, is not enough to sustain all DPH operations, as the department needs between \$30 million and \$35 million to fully operate.

For the Tinian Health Center alone, a little over \$1 million a year is not enough to sustain full operations, Dela Cruz said.

"Yes, [the corporation] will help the municipality in terms of taking away the financial burden from the mayor's office but, as far as delivery of public services [is concerned]...definitely it will be a major concern for me because people who are not able to get emergency medical evacuation in a timely fashion, for example, they will still knock at the mayor's office and seek assistance," he explained.

Dela Cruz is also disappointed with

the Tinian Health Center's lack of representation in the transition team.

"It's sad that THC is not actually part of the transition team. We're expecting and hoping that they will get some people involved from the Tinian center... but unfortunately, the transition has just been done on Saipan," he said.

Dela Cruz said the municipality will ask the team for a meeting so they could discuss solutions to problems he believes would occur due to the pending takeover.

Reprogramming

Dela Cruz, meantime, said that he has asked the Office of Management and Budget to reprogram unused or lapsed funds so the municipality could pay former physician assistant Bill Weiss. The Tinian Health Center owes Weiss about \$40,000.

THC has only one permanent physician right now, Dr. Steve Lebamoff. Dela Cruz said budget constraints are affecting the hiring of another physician and more mid-level service providers.

Rain scuttles man'amko walk

The *Man'amko* Health Walk scheduled yesterday morning was postponed due to rain.

Walter Manglona, Aging Office program coordinator, said yesterday that there is no definite date yet as to when the walk will be rescheduled.

"We will wait until the skies clear up and it's okay for the *man'amko* to be outdoors and walk," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The walk is part of the Older Americans Month/Mes *Man'amko/Maramal Tuufey* celebration this month.

"It helps promote awareness to all

residents that our senior citizens are still here and they are an important part of the community," Manglona said.

He said about 80 to 90 percent of the congregates who are still healthy and able to walk are expected to take part in the walk, which will be held around the Aging Office premises.

In other news, Manglona said six male senior citizens will vie for the "King of the Table: *Man'amko* Pool Tournament" today at the Aging Center.

Among the participants is defending champion Jesus Pangelinan. (Clarissa V. David)

yesterday that based on information he received as of Thursday afternoon, Tinian municipal employees were not about to get paid on Friday because of a lack of collection from casino revenues. This was the same information that Tinian Legislative Delegation members got from Tinian.

But Dela Cruz said he found out on Friday that a last-minute infusion of revenue from Dynasty averted a payless payday that day.

"Right now, we can't say whether there's going to be payroll next week. But we know things are better now than in April," he said.

The mayor said an average of \$100,000 a month is collected from casino revenue.

Dela Cruz and Tinian lawmakers said the average payroll cost for municipal employees is \$48,000 every two weeks.

Some municipal programs have been partially suspended, but officials said the delegation's passage Wednesday of a local bill appropriating \$8,000 for Tinian medical referral patients and the monthly subsistence allowance for certain Tinian patients is one way to help make up for a casino revenue shortage.

STEEP

From Page 1

Buck Consultant principal Dylan Porter said these "snapshots" were generated at the request of the Fund to see what it can do to improve the Fund's status in the event that nothing changes in the way government contributions are being remitted.

Porter said that if both COLA and disability benefits are stopped, this would reduce the Fund's liability and will yield a savings of \$95 million for the program.

Another option is an across-the-board cut on all members' benefits, ranging from 10 percent up to 50 percent, he said.

Porter said that if the Fund implements no changes, its assets will continue to decline sharply and will reach dangerous levels in 2015—just four years away. He projects assets to reach its lowest level in 2017.

As of April 29, 2011 the Fund's investment portfolio had a market value of \$328 million. This means the Fund is only 38 percent funded.

Besides stopping the COLA and disability benefits, if a 10 percent, across-the-board cut is enforced, the Fund's accrued liability will be reduced from \$850 million to \$765 million, Porter said. This will add four more years to the lifespan of the pension program.

If the Fund decides to implement a 25 percent across-the-board cut on all benefits, this will lengthen the Fund's lifespan up to 2023 and will bring its

funded status to 51.6 percent, Porter said. The Fund's lifespan will go even much longer if it goes with a 50 percent across-the-board reduction, he added.

Fund officials are scheduled to meet with the Legislature and Gov. Benigno R. Fitial today to present these "snapshots" and the actuarial evaluation report submitted by Buck Consultants for fiscal year 2009.

"We're not expected to be 100 percent funded. But we need to be fiscally responsible. For me, getting into 60 percent funded gives me a lot of hope because at present, we're just at 37 percent funded," said Fund board chair Sixto Igisomar.

He said these "snapshots" are options that could help the Fund improve its status. The Fund has yet to make a decision, though, whether to pursue these options or not.

Fund legal counsel Viola Alepu, meantime, stressed that besides these options, the passage of Fund-supported measures at the Legislature would aid the pension program. These include House Bill 17-99 that proposes a line item appropriation for the government employer contribution—from percentage basis to dollar amount.

Based on Buck Consultant's 28-page actuarial report, the Fund has had the following funding levels in the last 10-year period: 2000, 56 percent; 2001, 43.4 percent; 2002, 36.9 percent; 2003, 42.7 percent; 2004, 42 percent; 2005, 45.7 percent; 2006, 47.9 percent; 2007, 58 percent; 2008, 43.2 percent; and 2009, 37.4 percent.

House lawmaker cautions NMC board in hiring Adams

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Rep. Joseph Palacios wants the Board of Regents to reassess and re-evaluate its selection of Dr. Christa Adams for the presidency of the Northern Marianas College.

Palacios, a member of the House Committee on Education, said he sent the regents a

letter last week advising them to ensure that the candidate is the best choice for the college.

He said he was prompted to write the letter after being informed that Adams had received a no-confidence vote in 2009 from among the faculty during her tenure as president of Owens Community College in Ohio.

Palacios cited the college's experience under the leadership of Dr. Carmen Fernandez, who was terminated last year due to allegations of "wrongdoings."

"I wrote the board last week basically asking the members to fully check and see if some issues about Dr. Adams will not in any way discredit our institution if she becomes the college president. It

is important to know, at this time, if this will not affect or put NMC's accreditation at risk," he said in an interview during the Public School System's islandwide drill competition on Saturday.

Palacios said he has yet to get a formal response to his letter but was able to talk to board chair Juan Lizama. He said he was told that Adams' selection went

to NMC last month. Cabrera said the chief financial and administrative officer position had remained unfilled after the resignation of Henry Hofschneider last year. The post was announced for several months but had remained dormant.

"We haven't had any applicants and one of our concerns is having that position run in an acting capacity. So while in search of trying to find someone permanent, Roger agreed to step

in and help the college out," Cabrera told *Saipan Tribune* during the institution's commencement exercises Saturday night.

She said hiring a permanent financial chief is key to the college's accreditation efforts.

Madriaga graduated with a master's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1994. Prior to his graduate studies, he earned two bachelor's degrees—one in business admin-

istration and another in social sciences—from UH Hilo.

Saipan Tribune learned that Madriaga was first hired at NMC in December 2008. He replaced Martin Mendiola who was serving in an acting capacity. As director of the Office of Planning,

through an established process.

Former NMC president Agnes McPhetres and former lawmaker Oscar Rasa had earlier appealed to the board to reconsider its choice of Adams, saying her hiring may further jeopardize the institution's accreditation with the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Adams has yet to decide if she will accept NMC's offer or not. She is among the top three

candidates who were all offered the position. Drs. Sharon Hart and Jeff Armstrong have already declined.

NMC has had no permanent president since January 2010 when Fernandez was suspended and later fired by the board.

The college is currently addressing the continued show-cause sanction imposed by the accreditation team. A decision on the matter will come out in June.

Grants, and assistant director for the Office of Research, Planning and Evaluation.

Madriaga had also worked for more than eight years at the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation as administration and operations manager.

Madriaga back as NMC financial chief

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Roger Madriaga has returned to a post he held two years ago: chief financial and administrative officer of the Northern Marianas College.

NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera confirmed Saturday that Madriaga is back at the college under a limited contract. Limited term employees only have one-year contracts. Madriaga returned

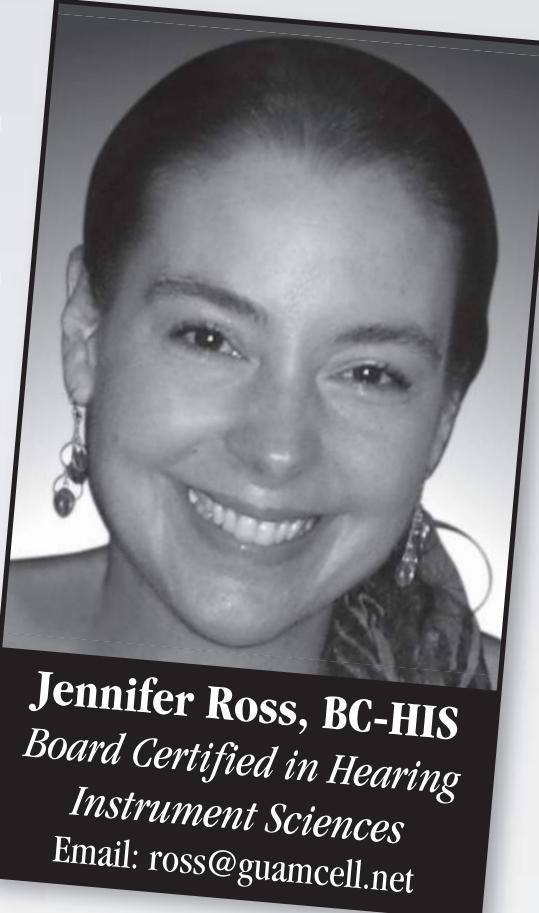
to NMC last month. Cabrera said the chief financial and administrative officer position had remained unfilled after the resignation of Henry Hofschneider last year. The post was announced for several months but had remained dormant.

Madriaga graduated with a master's degree in business administration from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 1994. Prior to his graduate studies, he earned two bachelor's degrees—one in business admin-

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JKPL wants exemption from possible ETC suspension

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Library Council wants the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to be exempted from a bill that seeks to suspend the educational tax credit program during periods of government austerity.

In a letter to Gov. Benigno Fitial, council chair Jose Limes said they want the CNMI's state library to continue receiving cash contributions through the "irreplaceable and valuable" program.

Limes said the enactment of Senate Bill 17-68 would cause "irreparable harm" to the library's "already tenuously

volatile and precariously fragile financial standing."

Public Law 15-120, signed into law by Fitial in December 2007, allows the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library to receive financial contributions by private individuals and business entities through the ETC program.

Since that law's enactment, the library has received about \$35,000 in ETC contributions "to augment and supplement our deteriorating local resources," said Limes.

"While it may look small at face value, JKPL's ETC funds are resources that have become extremely valuable and that we believe have more profound value in terms of their positive

impact on our community during these...financially challenging times," he said.

According to Limes, their ETC funds are placed in a revolving trust account and "spent only on an 'emergency' basis."

This funding, said Limes, has been spent for fuel for their Bookmobile program, emergency repairs to air conditioning units, routine engine servicing of old vehicles, and plumbing and maintenance repair costs.

Limes noted that from October 2010 to the present, the library has only expended 61 percent or \$4,740 of the \$7,750 ETC donations they had received.

He said the library, manned

by only eight individuals, has provided services to some 39,455 patrons who visited the Susupe location from September 2010 to April 2011 and about 2,061 patrons through the Bookmobile program from October 2010 to April 2011.

Limes asked Fitial to spare JKPL from the ETC suspension so it could "continue providing uninterrupted library services" and meet the "growing informational needs of our residents, especially in these socially and economically challenging times."

For his part, JKPL executive director John Gonzales said there is a "compelling need" for ETC contributions to help sustain their operations, which is

hampered by the local government's lack of funding.

Gonzales emphasized that their use of ETC funds is "accounted for" and "spent specifically and only on operations that local funds cannot pay for."

He urged lawmakers and the administration "to address the

alleged mismanagement and/or misappropriation of ETC funds" by enforcing the regulatory powers of agencies such as the Office of the Public Auditor instead of using an approach that puts law-abiding institutions "that truly and honestly manage these valued monies" at risk.

Get a cash rebate for buying energy-efficient appliances

The CNMI Energy Division has re-opened the State Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program to give CNMI residents a chance to buy qualified energy-efficient Energy Star-rated appliances.

The re-opening is available for a limited time only so rebate vouchers will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis while rebate vouchers lasts.

Because rebate vouchers are limited, the CNMI Division of Energy, in partnership with participating retailers, will be hosting a one-day only in-store sales promotional event on Saipan on Saturday, May 28, 2011, from 9am to 5pm only or when vouchers run out.

In addition, the Energy Division will be distributing the remaining reimbursement checks at the ACE hardware store in Gualo Rai to individuals who have not already received their checks for the difference of the original rebate voucher amount for the purchase of qualified appliances under the program.

To receive one's reimbursement check, present a valid CNMI driver's license, U.S. passport, or any other valid CNMI I.D. For individuals sending relatives, inform the Division of Energy in advance so that arrangements could be made to release the check. (PR)

Looking for a pet dog? Adopt one

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Animal lovers who want to adopt dogs will now have the option to do so through the Dog Control Program of the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Program director Ray B. Lizama said yesterday that their office is now accepting requests to adopt pets through their program.

"Individuals must visit our office to fill out the forms and submit the required documents and we will put them on our waiting list when pets become available. Just let us know what kind of dogs you are looking

for," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Lizama said they will ask applicants to inform them the about the type of pet, color, and gender they prefer. He said they will also require them to provide an identification card, mailing address, and contact number for their record.

According to Lizama, they will charge \$40 to those who want to adopt pets aged 4 months old and below. This includes adoption and altering or neutering fees.

For pets that are over 4 months old, the fee would be \$50, which is inclusive of parvo vaccination of \$10.

Lizama noted, however, that

some conditions apply.

"We will screen the dogs we will put up for adoption," said Lizama. "Our priority and concern is the safety of the adoptive family."

According to Lizama they have already put seven dogs up for adoption.

"We're also communicating with various pet organizations on island to try to get them to work with us to make the program a success," he added.

Dog tagging

In other news, Lizama said they already constructed yesterday morning the dog registration signage by the Garapan basketball court where the initial dog tagging will be held

from June 6 to 16.

"We were supposed to put it up early this month but we decided to just do it as the first tagging schedule draws near to serve as a reminder for the public," he added.

At present, Lizama said, they do not have plans to buy more tags to add to the over 10,300 tags they have on hand.

"We don't want to order too many because it might just go to waste, especially with the government trying to control and limit expenditures," he explained.

For information about dog adoption and tagging, call the Saipan Mayor's Office at 234-6208 or email dogcontrolprogram.mos2011@yahoo.com.

The new rebate amounts are



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Eloy S. Inos
Lt. Governor

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in Saipan. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit (Credit) under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with Credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying Buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The Qualified Allocation Plan must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate \$2,430,000.00 in LIHTCs for the 2010 program year and \$2,465,000 for the 2011 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application and the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, May 31, 2011**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by **June 7, 2011**. The owner/developer will be given 10 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **June 17, 2011**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **June 2011** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs 30 days following the June 2011 Board of Directors meeting. Owners/Developers will then have 30 days to complete their market study to meet the requirements. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than the submission of the market study.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO**
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangement for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Kaipat at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-11-010

Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from utility billing software development firms, for the Purchase of Utility Billing Software and preventative maintenance tracking software for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The work includes a needs assessment; training; project management; data conversion; and application. Deliverables may include a quotation for equipment to support the project and a performance report.

The bid package & specification will be **e-mailed** upon request, to all interested offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **June 03, 2011 at 11:00 AM (ChST)**, at CUC Main Conference Room No. 10, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-010, Supply of Utility Billing, Financial and Payroll Computer System" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **June 16, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 06, 2011 to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email address charles_warren@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

CLARISSA V. DAVID

From left, artists Michael Ernest, Mark Robertson, Mark James, Greg Elliott, Leslie Ware, Ross Wood, Scott Eck, and Nhorleen Bitco.

Sea turtle conservation group raises \$305 in art exhibit

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A new group that promotes the conservation of sea turtles, the only endemic turtle species in the CNMI, has concluded an art exhibit that sold seven artworks and raised \$305 for the cause.

The Turtle Advocate and Guardian Society or TAGS art exhibit, on display at the Marianas Eye Institute along Beach Road from May 16 to 21, featured works of art depicting mostly sea turtles and turtle sanctuaries.

The last day of the exhibit featured a reception for the public to have a chance to meet the artists, including Joe Weaver, Scott Eck, Greg Elliott, Mark Robertson, Leslie Ware, Mark James, Michael Ernest, Norbert Garcia, Nhorleen Bitco, and Susan Taylor.

Artwork made by third graders at Saipan Community School as well as second, third, and fifth grade students at Saipan International School were also on display.

Dmitri Varmazis, TAGS president and treasurer, said the exhibit was intended to raise awareness of the turtles' plight and funding to buy equipment that will be used for the group's conservation efforts.

"We've had several artworks that were bought. A percentage of the proceeds goes to us and the rest goes to the artist," said Varmazis, adding that this percentage ranges between 20 to

25 percent, depending on their arrangement with the artist.

According to Varmazis, TAGS was created less than a year ago by members composed mostly of divers.

"That's how we encountered the turtles for the first time and we met some biologists who explained that the species is going down in number here," he said.

Varmazis, who described sea turtles as "very gentle animals," said they decided to pool their resources "to make sure that 10 years from now, we can still see them in the water."

He said the group is composed of four core officers and about 20 to 30 volunteers who assist in organizing fundraisers as well as a beach monitoring project that was initiated in April at the start of the sea turtles' nesting season.

Varmazis said they welcome people "from all walks of life, all communities on the island" who are interested to become part of TAGS.

He emphasized the importance of sea turtles, one of the flagship species of the Marianas.

"People who dive and come to spend money here as tourists come here to specifically see animals like the turtles. If we don't take action, they will no longer be here in a very short amount of time. So it's pretty much now or never," said Varmazis.

To join, email saipantags@yahoo.com or visit their Facebook page.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS Class of 1991 sets reunion meeting

The Marianas High School Class of 1991 will be having its 20th reunion. Class members will be meeting on June 3, 2011, at the 13 Fishermen's Pavilion (2nd Pavilion) on Beach Road at 6pm to plan for the reunion. (PR)

Sengebau Poetry Competition postponed

The NMI Council for the Humanities 8th Annual Sengebau Poetry Competition has been postponed to October 2011 and will be included in the upcoming celebration of Humanities Month. (PR)

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB11-OHS-091

SUBMISSION DATE: DATE: JUNE 24, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

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PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS MAY RETRIEVE A COPY OF THE COMPLETE CONTENTS OF THE INVITATION FOR BIDS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

AN E-MAIL BID SUBMISSION IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED ON THIS IFB. ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS SHALL BE SUBMITTED THROUGH E-MAIL TO procurement@pticom.com NO LATER THAN 10:00 A.M., CHAMORRO STANDARD TIME, JUNE 24, 2011.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. CARL DELA CRUZ, OHS PROCUREMENT OFFICER BY E-MAIL TO ohs.delacruz@gmail.com NO LATER THAN CLOSE OF BUSINESS, TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ MARVIN K. SEMAN
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR
HOMELAND SECURITY

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
DIRECTOR, P&S



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works



INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW11-IFB-009

GROUNDWATER, LEACHATE, AND GAS TESTING AT THE MARPI SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Groundwater, Leachate, and Gas Testing at the Marpi Solid Waste Management Facility, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after May 24, 2011 at DPW Technical Services Division 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizen or Permanent as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the **BID** or **PROPOSAL** if preference is claimed.

A Pre-bid Conference is scheduled for June 2, 2011, 9:00 a.m., local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, 2nd Floor, Gualo Rai Commercial Building.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who have obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW11-IFB-009". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 9, 2011. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, June 9, 2011, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 9, 2011, and must be received no later than June 20, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 23, 2011. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on June 14, 2011.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMIAC §70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

The contract to be awarded shall extend for a period of two (2) years from the date of Notice to Proceed issuance.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLON
Secretary of Public Works

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLON
Director of Procurement & Supply

Summit eyes ways to redevelop Northern Islands

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Preparations are under way for a summit that aims to underscore the economic role of the Northern Islands in the Commonwealth and what could be done to repopulate and develop these mostly uninhabited islands.

“Resettlement and Economic Redevelopment Opportunities: CNMI’s Northern Frontier,” tentatively slated for September 2011, is spearheaded by Northern Islands Mayor Tobias Aldan and a planning committee that includes overall chair Jess Wabol, program manager Jerome Aldan, press secretary Angel Demapan, and the Department of Public Lands.

Wabol said the summit intends to educate the public about the existence of the Northern Islands.

“Part of the objective is to



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Jess Wabol, center, gestures as he talks to former representative William Torres and Herman Cabrera during a meeting at the Northern Islands Mayor’s Office Thursday. The three are part of the committee preparing for the summit called “Resettlement and Economic Redevelopment Opportunities: CNMI’s Northern Frontier” slated for September.

create general awareness about Northern Islands,” he said. “A lot of people don’t know that there is such a thing as Northern Islands and we want to create general awareness about its existence.”

Former representative William Torres, who is also part of the committee, said the whole-day summit will be the “first of its kind” to initiate discussions on the potential of the Northern Islands.

“We hope to enlist members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegations and invite our federal partners to serve as panelists,” he said.

Torres said they will invite representatives from the military, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Geological Survey, Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Aviation Administration, and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Torres said these are the agencies critical to the growth of the Northern Islands. He noted that the local government, through

NIMO, has already developed “close relationship” with some of these agencies.

“We need to engage in a network of partnerships and see what each partner can bring to the table like technical or financial assistance,” he told *Saipan Tribune*. “It’s a conglomerate of partners pursuing development.”

Torres said the summit will focus on issues such as military relocation, transportation, communication, and other infrastructure that are vital to the resettlement and redevelopment of the Northern Islands.

“Copra production was once thriving in the Northern Islands. People were very prosperous then. The summit aims to identify what needs to be done to redevelop the islands again,” he said.

Torres added, “Northern Islands are a chain of islands growing by the day and have a lot of potential. But there are risks that need to be taken into account. People should be responsible and know how to mitigate these risks. We hope to talk about all these during the summit.”

3 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environment Quality has red-flagged Central Repair Shop, DPW Channel Bridge, and Garapan Fishing Dock and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ said that samples collected from these locations had

excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. Water samples were taken from 12 locations on Saipan this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

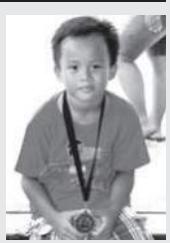
Right from the very first time we held you in our arms, we knew you were special. Today we find ourselves really happy to see you grow up so beautifully. Happy birthday to our princess, Aldene Jayh Hockett Alvarez! We love you Lala! Greetings come from your Hockett and Alvarez families.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GOLD MEDALIST

Congratulations to our son, Frederic Dean Michael Manicdao “Mac” Guintu for being the gold medalist (1st place winner) in the 2011 NMI Math Court Regional Finals Kinder-2nd Grade Division held on May 21, 2011, at Dandan Elementary School, Saipan. We are very proud of you! Keep up the good work! Greetings come from Dad and Mom, Dick and Maricar Guintu.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune*, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.



If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council’s office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council’s Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



The individuals in last week’s column were identified as, from left, Nicolas M. Deleon Guerrero and Ned Debrum. They were identified by Juan C. Diaz.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS’ HEADLINES

May 24, 1999

Agriculture grant available

The deadline for applicants to sign up for the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS), 1996 Farm Bill, Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) is June 11, 1999. This program provides cost share dollars, through the Commodity Credit Corporation, to address major resource concerns and priorities identified as problems through local working groups. For the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota, the proper control of animal waste through the collection, treatment, storage, and waste utilization for confined animal operations have been targeted for assistance in 1999.

Legislature, BPL meet to settle land lease row

Members of the Legislature are set to meet today with the Board of Public Lands to try to settle differences on the plan to grant a 15-year lease extension to the Rota Resort and Country Club. The crucial meeting will determine whether legislators can go ahead and vote on the lease extension—a move that will help bail out the Japanese-owned resort from its present financial troubles. According to Sen. Edward U. Maratita, chair of the Rota legislative delegation, he has asked both the House and Senate Resources Committee to discuss the issue with public lands officials to resolve the problems as soon as possible.

May 24, 2000

CPTA enters national PTA organization

The CNMI Council for Parent Teacher Association is now a proud member of the Pacific Congress of PTA/PTSA as well as the U.S. National PTA after six officials from the group took part in the recent National PTA Convention in Okinawa, Japan. The membership will now allow the local PTA council to benefit from a number of federally-funded programs accorded to all members of the regional and national organization. Board of Education Chair of the Committee on Parent-Teacher Relations Roman Benavente yesterday said advantages to this membership is encompassing as it could help the council identify federal grants from the U.S. Department of Education.

Health evaluation in Tanapag winds down in 2 weeks

The health clinic set up in Tanapag to evaluate residents and former residents of the village may be closed down in two weeks after 90 percent of the target number for screening in connection with potential exposure to polychlorinated biphenyl have showed up for testing. Dr. Richard Brostrom urged all former residents of Tanapag to visit the clinic and avail of the free health evaluation. “We don’t know how to contact those who have stayed there for at least three years and moved to another village because we have no record that will at least help us trace them,” he said. The Tanapag PCB Clinic is open to all residents and for anyone who lived in the village for a total of three years from 1968 to the present or whose mother lived there while pregnant.

May 24, 2001

CPA backing on dump closure project sought

Private construction firm DRC Pacific sought the support of the Commonwealth Ports Authority during yesterday’s presentation of the comprehensive conversion plan for the Puerto Rico dump to the CPA Board of Directors. DRC Pacific Rim Manager Steve Baldwin listed the benefits CPA is likely to enjoy if the company gets the contract for the Puerto Rico dump closure and Marpi landfill construction and operations. Another firm, DRC came in second to Dick Pacific which was awarded the Marpi landfill project after the original lowest bidder Block Microl was forced out of the process due to alleged violations.

House allows CRM to hire nonresident professionals

The House of Representatives yesterday allowed the Coastal Resources Management to hire qualified nonresident professionals like engineers to fill sensitive positions in the agency. House Bill 12-343 is now headed to the Senate for review and deliberation. House Committee on Judicial and Government Operations recommended passage of the proposed measure which allows nonresident workers with professional degree to work for CRM. The bill’s proponent Rep. Oscar M. Babauta explained that the amended version of Public Law 12-34, lifted restrictions imposed on Subsections 2 and 4 due to difficulties faced by CRM in filling in positions for scientists and engineers.

NMC's 31st Commencement Exercise



Northern Marianas College graduates applaud at the conclusion of their commencement exercise on Saturday at the Marianas High School gymnasium.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



A Northern Marianas College student receives her diploma from NMC dean of Academic Programs and Services Barbara Merfalen, left, and NMC Board of Regents chair Juan T. Lizama.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



Over 80 graduates in attendance look on at the presentations at the college's 31st Commencement Exercise held on May 21, 2011.

NMC



NMC Tinian Adult School graduates pose for a group photo with NMC Tinian Program coordinator Maria Aguon, second from left, and Tinian officials.

NMC



Students receive their diplomas from college officials at NMC's 31st Commencement Exercise.

NMC



NMC administrator Geri Willis delivers the first keynote address.

NMC



Graduation marshals from NMC's educational programs Adult Basic Education, bachelor degree program, and associate degree program lead the procession of graduates.



Associated Students of NMC president Antonio Tiples receives his diploma.

NMC

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Immigration push

© 2011, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Secure the border. Create a guest worker program. Offer a path to eventual citizenship.

These are the common-sense elements of a comprehensive immigration reform policy.

President Barack Obama visited the U.S.-Mexican border in El Paso, Texas, last week to create, in the words of aides, "a sense of urgency" for just such a policy.

But Obama will have to do more than talk.

The president should put his ideas in the form of legislation—and then push hard for it with both Republicans and Democrats. It makes no sense to allow 11 million people to continue to live in the shadows in this country.

The last major bipartisan effort to pass comprehensive immigration reform died during the administration of President George W. Bush in 2007. Conservatives in the president's own party opposed the effort.

Obama touted immigration reform during his campaign for president, but then a battered economy and the president's decision to push hard for health-care reform meant that other issues, including immigration, were shelved. In its place, and to the dismay of his Hispanic supporters, Obama focused on a more aggressive deportation campaign. Nearly 400,000 immigrants were removed each year in 2009 and 2010.

The current immigration system is an unadulterated mess. An estimated 11 million illegal immigrants live outside the law. Restrictive policies break up families and force university graduates from other countries to put their talents to work outside the United States. And the underground economy exploits both immigrants and American workers alike.

Any policy must start with ensuring a secure border, especially given the violence emanating from the Mexican drug wars. But the federal government should not stop there. There should be a guest worker program and an eventual path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who qualify.

Already, some of Obama's opponents are labeling his latest plea for sanity "amnesty." Let them howl. The firebrands will never be satisfied. As Obama noted in his speech, those critics always will demand more border security.

True reform is needed. "The United States will find it far more difficult to maintain its competitive edge if it excludes those who are able and willing to help us compete," the president said.

He's right. Now, if only he would fight harder for this sensible policy.



Another foolish man gets caught acting foolishly

Raffaele Raia, the renowned Italian philosopher and soccer expert—and the guy who cuts my hair—was busy with his scissors.

"Arnold Schwarzenegger, he's in big trouble," Raia said. "Big trouble."

There are many theories about the scandal involving the villainous Hollywood action star and former governor of California, the chunky maid upon whom he begat a love child, and his suffering and good wife, Maria Shriver.

My favorite theory is the one I just made up about two minutes ago.

Schwarzenegger became famous lifting weights, played a landless barbarian in the movies, married a princess of the Kennedy clan, made a fortune and went into politics. And he could have kept all of it going if he'd only chosen a different maid.

A maid with the name, say, of Zach Galifianakis.

Galifianakis might not do windows. But a fat, hairy-backed, bearded maid named Zack would have kept Arnold's mind on what was truly important: His wife and kids.

And sadly, what is important is often forgotten by foolish men.

"Women understand men," said Raffaele the philosopher, "but men don't understand themselves. Women know that men are basically driven by three impulses: Food, sleep and you-know-what."

Then he ticked off a list of famous men who got in trouble with the you-know-what, including a former president, several congressmen, senators, that golfer guy, and so on, a list as old as original sin.

Another pet theory of mine is that all the negative publicity may actually encourage Schwarzenegger to get back into politics.

He could remain a Republican and begin campaigning for Newt Gingrich, who has announced for president but is running into trouble in Iowa. Gingrich once criticized Democrats for infidelity, but he's since evolved, and now blames his own extramarital escapades on ardent patriotism.

Perhaps the two of them could start a new political party:

The Fidelity Party.

Even by Hollywood standards, the Schwarzenegger business is rather creepy, with the family being served by the maid, and the maid's son meeting Arnold's other kids, the two women in Arnold's life pregnant at the same time. And what most of us are thinking about when we think of this tawdry story is the interaction between the women inside the home. It's excruciating to contemplate.

And so here's a storyline I just made up, and though it is complete fiction, it's also entirely possible, you might say, even probable:

Years after the babies were born, the maid may have made grilled-cheese sandwiches for everybody on some Saturday, and Maria may have made the iced tea, with all of them sitting around the kitchen table laughing, kids too, Arnold making animal noises.

But what's not fiction is that later Maria found out the truth and Oprah put those big Oprah arms around her, and they talked of friendship.

American women have flocked to Maria. And Arnold is universally despised. It's what he deserves.

It's not only the affair. It's the fact that he let his wife play the fool for so long. That's what drives this story, the maid knowing, the wife oblivious in her own kitchen, perhaps saying, "Hey guys,

By JOHN KASS

Chicago Tribune

John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. Readers may send him e-mail at js-kass@tribune.com.



more iced tea?"

It's so easy to imagine it: Arnold grunts and grunts, and the kids laugh and laugh, even the quiet boy standing off to the side, and the maid puts her hand on his shoulders and ruffles her son's hair and the boy smiles. Arnold catches his eye and tries smiling back, but his mouth is suddenly so dry that his lips stick to his teeth and he looks away, and hides behind another series of grunts.

Yes, the above scene has been completely fabricated, but still, I can see it.

The saga is almost like an episode of the excellent Chicago-based political sexual corruption drama "The Good Wife" on CBS.

"Except instead of a lesbian investigator, it's a maid," said a woman at work.

Exactly.

Of course, betrayal happens to men too. I figure it happens as much to men as to women, although I have no statistics except the fact of human imperfection.

But here's how you know it happens to men. Because sometimes the story ends with homicide detectives knocking on doors, asking the neighbors if they saw anything the other night.

So this isn't a mere betrayal, it's a humiliation, two people knowing the secret, keeping it from the third in her own home.

If only Arnold weren't so vulgar, leaving the cigar bands on and that orange hair, and Maria the innocent victim though she's got the Kennedy eyes and jawline. The whole thing could make a novel.

Who'll write it? Who'll read it?

Why wait for the book? Hollywood will most likely make the movie instead. A few of us are already casting it; Julia Roberts as Maria, Rosie Perez as the maid, and Josh Brolin as Arnold. Quentin Tarantino would direct.

On Wednesday a TV shrink analyzed Arnold from afar, saying that as an action star and politician, Arnold may have been emotionally needy. He may have required someone to look upon him and adore him. It's perfectly narcissistic, and perfectly in tune with our common, modern culture.

Demanding adoration from another woman after years of marriage to the mother of your children is rather sad.

When you're with one woman for years, she knows everything about you. And if she stays knowing everything, that's better than adoration.

"After all this time, they know us," said Raffaele.

Yes. And if we stay together, we count ourselves lucky. It's called marriage.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

They drank the tea

If congressional negotiators fail to resolve their impasse over the federal debt ceiling, we may recall this moment in history as one of the nation's worst since the morning Custer awoke thinking it might be amusing to go and annoy Sitting Bull.

Ensuring the U.S. government's full faith and credit is a matter of such consequence to the global financial system that everything else concerning the budget seems a sideshow. Still, some of the latter are intriguing, and none more so than the bizarre little costume pageant played out by leaders of the "tea party" movement and some of their congressional admirers in Washington on Monday.

The group scheduled a news conference to coincide with an address by House Speaker John A. Boehner, R-Ohio, to the Economic Club of New York. The GOP leader told the gathering of Wall Street insiders that his party would not vote to raise the debt ceiling unless the Democrats agreed to spending cuts of \$2 trillion or more. Boehner said that "allowing America to default would be irresponsible" but that failure to "reform the budget process" would be worse.

That's pretty strong stuff, but it wasn't good enough for the tea partyers back in Washington, who accused Boehner and his lieutenants of preparing to sell them out to the White House in "a cowardly act of treason against coming generations."

The Rev. William Temple, chairman of the tea party's Founding Fathers, who appeared—as apparently is his custom—in a tri-cornered hat and full Colonial-era regalia, sneered at Boehner as "a wimpy RINO," (Republican In Name Only) and derided him as

"our tearful House speaker." Temple said the tea party would give lawmakers "something to really cry about in 2012" by turning the debt ceiling vote into a litmus test: "If you vote to raise the debt ceiling, you get a '0' for the year from the tea party. If you don't vote to raise the debt ceiling, you get a '100' and you're a hero."

That's fiery, and worthy of fancy dress, but no sooner had Temple drawn his line in the sand than he and the other factional leaders in attendance began pointing to ways around it. All involved extracting concessions from the Democrats on what the tea party spokesmen consider "core value issues."

Part of the conventional wisdom about the tea party has been the notion that it's a populist movement overwhelmingly concerned with economic rather than social issues. As we're discovering, that's not the case.

What was particularly interesting about Monday's news conference was that Temple and other tea party leaders indicated they might "possibly forgive Boehner and the House Republicans a small bump in the debt limit" if the GOP limits the role of women in combat and reinstates the "don't ask, don't tell" policy with regard to gays and lesbians serving in the military. Temple put his case this way:

"When the Pentagon's own studies show that military effemimation (sic) may have an extremely costly impact on recruiting and retention, when Islamists have shown their willingness to sexually brutalize American female reporters, why would John Boehner's House Republicans be caving to political correctness? Why would House Republicans who know better be fostering inappropriate attractions in the intimacy of tents, bunks, barracks, platoons, subs,

By TIM RUTTEN

Los Angeles Times

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tanks, convoys, cockpits, latrines, showers, toilets and locker rooms when we are fighting wars in three Muslim nations?"

Other tea party spokesmen made similar points, and former Iowa gubernatorial candidate Bob Vander Plaats insisted that the connection of gay rights and economic policy was legitimate.

"It's a ripple effect," he told the Talkingpointsmemo website. "When you start going away from core value issues, the ripple effect leads right to economic issues as well. If you tell me where you're at, say, on the sanctity of marriage or on some core value issues, I'll tell you where you're at on economic policy."

As it turns out, for all its ostensible novelty, the tea party movement is simply a fresh manifestation of a familiar American political pathology, what philosopher J.M. Cameron called "syndrome thinking": an insistence on holding bundles of unexamined beliefs—say an insistence on liberty's primacy and an antipathy to equal rights for gays—linked by something other than logic.

As usual, the problem with pouring old wine from new skins is the bitterness of the vintage.

Sweeping overhaul will save Medicare

By GRACE-MARIE TURNER
GALEN INSTITUTE

ALEXANDRIA, Va.—The escalating political debate about the future of Medicare reveals a fear of change coupled with the growing recognition that change is essential to sustain the program for the future.

Medicare is facing \$38 trillion in red ink. The recent Medicare Trustees report showed the program is careening toward bankruptcy and will run out of money in 2024—five years faster than the trustees predicted just one year ago.

And to make it worse, the chief actuary for Medicare, Richard Foster, issued a dissenting opinion to the report, explaining that even those dire predictions are based upon politically unrealistic spending cuts that neither he nor anyone else expects to happen.

President Obama's health-care law passed last year relies on cuts in payments to doctors, hospitals and other Medicare providers, starting with a 30 percent cut at the end of this year and further cuts year after year. Eventually, two out of five providers would either go bankrupt or be forced to stop seeing Medicare patients altogether.

Not changing Medicare is not an option. Yet the prevailing wish appears to be that politicians will simply leave Medicare alone.

But without a serious course adjustment, the program faces a steep and inevitable decline. Medicare will become a third-rate, price-controlled program that rations a lower-quality of care through waiting lines and other restrictions.

If Medicare's antiquated, open-ended, fee-for-service model isn't reformed, then we will continue to pour deficit-funded dollars into the program or raise taxes to levels that would topple the economy as millions of baby boomers hit retirement.

House Budget Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., recognizes that reality in his proposal to begin modernizing the program, starting 10 years from now. He wants the next generation of seniors to have more choices and lower costs through competition. They would get guaranteed private coverage through a modernized Medicare program that works much like the health program members of Congress have today.

The Congressional Budget Office has shown the Ryan plan will save Medicare and keep the economy from collapsing under the weight of massive entitlement spending.

The president railed at Rep. Ryan for his plan, claiming it would leave seniors destitute. That is a false charge, and it deflects attention from the fact that the president already has led the effort to make major changes to Medicare.

The president's health law is financed through \$575 billion in Medicare spending cuts to help fund two new entitlement programs. This spring, the president proposed doubling down on those cuts by taking an additional \$480 billion out of the program to lower the deficit.

If even a fraction of these cuts take place, a whopping 87 percent of doctors say they will stop seeing or will restrict the number of Medicare patients they see, further shrinking the pool of providers and further restricting access to care.

Rationing will ensue. The powerful, 15-member Independent Payment Advisory Board will try to squeeze Medicare payments into health care's global budget in a futile attempt to use price controls to meet ever-elusive spending targets.

Access to new medicines and cutting-edge medical equipment will diminish. Payment restrictions and the politicization of medical decisions will give companies less incentive to take the huge capital

risks to invest in new products. And the government is targeting drugs and devices—which often are the most cost-effective treatments overall—in its futile effort to rein in spending.

The only way to save Medicare is to change it. Voters face a clear choice. Do we want to continue down a path of price controls, restrictions on access and government-rationed health care? Or do we want to modernize Medicare—and save it—so seniors have the security of access to care and choices of coverage with competition driving costs down?

Grace-Marie Turner is president and founder of the Galen Institute, which is funded in part by the pharmaceutical and medical industries. Readers may write to her at Galen Institute, P.O. Box 320010, Alexandria, Va. 22320; Web site: www.galen.org; email: GraceMarie@galen.org. For information about Galen's funding, please go to www.galen.org/content/join.html.

Letters to the Editor

Yes, I am still here

I suppose that you are all wondering why I have been so quiet lately. There has been a lot that I could have written about: the attempt to bring a casino in the back door, the saga of the power poles in Marpi, the CUC rate hike, and much more. The truth of the matter is that I have decided to spend my time working on getting CUC turned into a co-op utility. We now have a steering committee that is working very hard to get the bylaws drawn up. We are working with a group called NRECA (National Rural Electric Cooperative Association). This is an association formed by 900 co-op utility groups in the United States. They produce 47 percent of all electrical power

in the United States. They have agreed to work with us to make sure that we do things right and get off to a good start as a co-op. They bring a lot of experience to the table with them. They agree that we need to get the cost of power down. They can also steer us in the right direction to get onto alternative power. As soon as we get the bylaws done and get the co-op licensed and registered we will be coming out to the community to explain what we are doing and to hopefully get the residents to support us. I am totally convinced that the only way to get the economy turned around is to get the cost of utilities down so that we can get honest investors to come here.

Frederick A. Prosser
As Matuus, Saipan

Speed bumps

I would like to suggest to DPW Roads and Grounds if it's possible to find a way to improve the visibility of speed bumps in all the villages. As of right now, the visibility of speed bumps and the road is the same. Especially at night, sometimes drivers cannot recognize that a speed bump is ahead, until the vehicle bumps into it. Perhaps, painting them with colors or putting reflectors would help drivers notice that a speed bump is ahead.

I hope the director of DPW, Mr. Martin Sablan, is reading this letter of mine and consider it important enough to make it happen. I understand that the government is suffering and facing severe financial difficulties, but I believe my suggestion is for the safety of the general public and for automobile operators. In reality, it is the job of our lawmakers to be looking into this issue and referring it to the responsible department of the government, but I consider myself a concerned citizen.

Ray Agulto
Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°	▲ 88° ▾ 77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 86 ▾ 81
Palau	Rain	▲ 84 ▾ 78
Yap	Rain	▲ 84 ▾ 76
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 82 ▾ 77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 76
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 88 ▾ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▾ 77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 64 ▾ 59
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▾ 62
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▾ 77
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 83 ▾ 74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 66 ▾ 50
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▾ 57
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 90 ▾ 79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 55 ▾ 46
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▾ 75
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 82 ▾ 65
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76 ▾ 58
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 78 ▾ 51
Pusan	Windy	▲ 69 ▾ 59
Rome	Showers	▲ 79 ▾ 61
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▾ 51
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 61 ▾ 52
Seoul	Cloudy	▲ 79 ▾ 59
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▾ 57
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▾ 68

Tides

Saipan Harbor		
1:33 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.8 Feet
7:38 AM	Today	Low Tide: 1.0 Feet
11:57 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.4 Feet
7:06 PM	Today	Low Tide: 0.3 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	5:47 AM	6:41 PM	Today	11:43 AM	
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:41 PM	Wednesday	12:23 AM	12:30 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM	Thursday	12:59 AM	1:17 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM	Friday	1:34 AM	2:03 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM	Saturday	2:10 AM	2:50 PM

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ISLAND SNAPSHTOS

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

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A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVELOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

0Z608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5
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BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

0Z607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
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SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

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Business

Many in France see ex-IMF chief as setup victim

PARIS (AP)—Forget what the New York prosecutor says about Dominique Strauss-Kahn. The doubters in France are legion and the country is abuzz with conspiracy theories. Did Strauss-Kahn bring on his own ruin at a luxury Manhattan hotel? Or did his political enemies in France set him up in a sinister plot to undo the known womanizer who was a top contender to become France's next president?

From the moment that Strauss-Kahn's arrest for the alleged sexual assault of a chambermaid flashed around the world, doubts emerged in France. A week later, with evidence still under wraps and the accused and the accuser silent, speculation abounds.

A poll Thursday suggested that a majority of French, 57 percent, think Strauss-Kahn was the victim of a plot. In a country where low blows pepper the political culture, where people think politicians will do almost anything to keep their perks and where President Nicolas Sarkozy's approval ratings are sinking relentlessly, a plot against the increasingly powerful IMF chief seems plausible to many.

"The trap, you cannot not think of it," Cooperation Minister Henri de Raincourt conceded on Radio France International a day after the arrest. "But we must let justice follow its course without any prior assumptions."

Strauss-Kahn himself is reported to have voiced fears of a setup involving an alleged rape victim last month



Women hold signs and wear false beards in Paris, Sunday May 22, 2011. The demonstrators are protesting against sexism, rape and sexual crimes. French women's groups outraged by the political and media reaction to the sexual assault allegations against Dominique Strauss-Kahn organized the protest.

with a journalist.

And then there are the precedents.

Former conservative Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin is now in a slander trial that grew out of accusations he had wind of a dirty tricks campaign

against Sarkozy in 2004 and failed to stop it. Sarkozy has said he believes the scheme was meant to upend his 2007 presidential bid.

Doubts are still raised over the 1994 suicide, in his office at the presidential

Elysee Palace, of the man considered former Socialist President Francois Mitterrand's closest counselor, Francois de Grossouvre. And there are those who wonder, nearly two decades later, who really aimed the gun in the 1993

suicide of former Prime Minister Pierre Beregovoy.

Strauss-Kahn's fall from grace on May 14 was brutal. It came minutes before his trans-Atlantic flight for a meeting, as chief of the International Monetary Fund, with German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

The 62-year-old Socialist who led popularity polls for next year's presidential race insists he is innocent and has resigned from his job at the IMF to fight the charges.

He was indicted by a grand jury on charges including criminal sexual abuse and attempted rape for allegedly attacking a 32-year-old maid, a West African immigrant, in his suite at the Sofitel. Strauss-Kahn is now under house arrest in Manhattan, watched by armed guards and tracked with an electronic bracelet, as he prepares his defense.

The French press and Internet forums are flooded with questions from those who suspect a setup or are true believers in his innocence.

■ Why would he call the hotel from the airport to recover a forgotten cell phone if he was guilty?

■ Why not simply arrange for a female companion rather than assault a maid?

■ Why would a maid enter Strauss-Kahn's presidential suite unaccompanied?

"At this stage of the investigation, the hypothesis of a manipulation cannot be swept aside," sociologist Michele Fize wrote in Sunday's *Le Monde* newspaper.

SHRM to tackle impact of immigration law on IRs, nonresidents

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Oil falls to near \$99 amid stronger US dollar

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices fell to near \$99 a barrel Monday in Asia as a stronger U.S. dollar made commodities more expensive for investors with other currencies. Benchmark crude for July delivery was down 97 cents to \$99.13 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose \$1.17 to settle at \$100.10 on Friday. In London, Brent crude for July delivery was down 94 cents to \$111.45 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

China plans financial over-haul at Three Gorges Dam

BEIJING (AP)—The operator of China's giant Three Gorges Dam plans to overhaul its finances after the government made a surprising admission last week that the world's largest hydroelectric project has urgent environmental, geologic and economic problems. The China Three Gorges Corp. said a government audit found 31 problems related to financial management, investment, bidding and other issues, the official Xinhua News Agency reported Sunday.

India woos Africa to boost trade

NEW DELHI (AP)—India is setting up a diamond processing facility in Botswana. In Uganda, it's build-

ing a center to train businesses about global markets. In four of Africa's poorest countries, Indians are helping cotton farmers improve their yields. Across Africa, India is reaching out with a generous mix of aid, education and technology transfers it hopes will pay rich dividends in the global scramble for natural resources. Over the weekend, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and scores of business leaders flew to Ethiopia for a meeting with African leaders aimed at prying open doors for greater business opportunities.

Greece: Return to bond markets in 2012 unlikely

BERLIN (AP)—Greece's prime minister admitted for the first that his country might not be able to tap the markets for its borrowing needs next year as the head of the eurogroup urged the debt-ridden country to set up an independent privatization body overseen by the European Union to bring down its ballooning debt level. George Papandreou said in an interview to daily Ethnos published Sunday that "it does not appear at present that Greece will be able to cover its borrowing requirements in 2012 normally, from the markets." As part of its euro110 billion bailout deal with the European Union and the International Monetary Fund, Greece was expected to raise euro27 billion to help pay its bills in 2012.

"Immigration Law's Impact on IRs & Other Nonresidents" will be the topic in tomorrow's May general membership meeting of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management.

Bruce Mailman and Maya Kara, attorneys at law specializing in immigration issues, will make the presentation during the lunch meeting at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret from 11:30am to 1:30pm.

This presentation is open to the public and will be an invaluable opportunity for employers and employees to learn about the impact that the federalization of Immigration will have on nonresidents in the CNMI, particularly those who are Immediate Relatives (IRs) of U.S. citizens or IRs of lawful permanent residents (LPRs or green card holders).

Since the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to publish the rules and regulations for contract

worker visas, many nonresidents who are eligible for U.S. immigration status have been reluctant to apply.

However, beginning Nov. 28, 2011, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) will no longer honor entry permits and umbrella permits issued by the CNMI government.

Anyone who does not have a U.S.-issued immigration status on that date will be considered "out of status" and deportable.

Mailman and Kara have found that there is a lot of confusion and misunderstanding about the federalization law as it applies to certain classes of nonresidents. For the most part, those people who have the ability to change their status but do not do so are likely to find that they will have to leave the CNMI come November of this year.

Mailman and Kara will help clear up the confusion by addressing critical

topics and questions such as:

1. Who is an IR?

2. Does my IR spouse need a U.S. visa?

3. If I'm in a common law marriage with a U.S. citizen, do I need a U.S. visa?

4. Do I have to apply for a U.S. visa for my kids if they are IRs?

5. What about surviving spouses of U.S. citizens?

6. Are there any provisions for victims of abuse, human trafficking or violent crimes?

7. What is the status of IRs of CNMI permanent residents and FAS citizens?

8. What should an IR do right now?

The presentation includes lunch and the cost is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting SHRM CNMI president Polly DLG Masga at 237-5122 or email her at pollydlg@gmail.com. (PR)

Tinian store cited for selling alcohol to minors

Lucky Qiang Mart has been cited for selling alcohol to minors during a compliance check conducted by the Tinian Local Enforcement Underage Drinking Laws Taskforce last May 18.

Jose P. Kiyoshi, task force resident department head, said Lucky Qiang Mart's case is currently being investigated and only after the probe is completed will the penalty or penalties against the store be determined. Lucky Qiang Mart is owned by Gregorio Q. Castro.

Kiyoshi said San Jose Village on Tinian has a total of 13 licensed retail stores. Out of the number, 10 were visited by the

task force as the other three stores were already closed at the time. The compliance check was held from 7pm to 9pm.

The stores that were found not selling alcohol to minors are Tinian Island Store, Tinian Island Store II, Tian Hong Market, 3k's Market, U-Save Market, J&J Mart, 727, SN-5 Mini Mart, and Tian Hong Market.

"I would like to congratulate you and your staff for not selling alcohol to the minors," said Kiyoshi. "I want to thank the parents and their minor child for volunteering their time and support for the program on keeping alcohol away

from our underage kids."

The task force head also thanked enforcement officers from Department of Commerce and Tinian Public Safety, staff, resident department head Jasper Borja, and Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz for their untiring support for the program.

This compliance check was made possible by Criminal Justice Planning Agency through a grant from Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Program.

For more information, call the Department of Commerce, ABTC Division at 433-0853. (PR)

Nation

Tornadoes batter central US, kill unknown number

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP)—A massive tornado blasted its way across southwestern Missouri on Sunday, flattening several blocks of homes and businesses in Joplin and leaving residents frantically scrambling through the wreckage.

Hundreds of windows were blown out St. John's Regional Medical Center, where a few moments' notice gave staff time to hustle patients into hallways before the tornado struck the multistory building. All were quickly evacuated into the parking lot to be moved to other hospitals in the region.

The same storm system that produced the Joplin tornado spawned twisters along a broad swath of the Midwest, from Oklahoma to Wisconsin. At least one person was killed in Minneapolis.

Missouri authorities said they could confirm that people had died in Joplin, but the numbers were unknown late Sunday. The storm that hit the city spread debris about 60 miles away, with medical records, X-rays, insulation and other items falling to the ground in Greene County, said Larry Woods, assistant director of the Springfield-Greene County Office of Emergency Management.

Emergency management officials rushed heavy equipment to Joplin to help lift debris and clear the way for search and recovery operations. Gov. Jay Nixon activated the National



AP A man carries a young girl who was rescued after being trapped with her mother in their home after a tornado hit Joplin, Mo. on Sunday evening, May 22, 2011.

Guard and declared a state of emergency. Schools in the disaster zone were flattened or severely damaged.

Phone communications in and out of the city of about 50,000 people about 160 miles south of Kansas City were largely cut off. Travel through and around Joplin was difficult, with Interstate 44 shut down

and streets clogged with emergency vehicles and the wreckage of buildings.

On social networking sites, people with ties to Joplin and even those without were calling for prayers for the southwest Missouri city. Some people were quick to post that they and their families are OK, or to get the word out that loved ones are missing.

Pawlenty announces presidential run in Web video

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—Republican Tim Pawlenty offered a sneak peek Sunday at his presidential kickoff, blasting out an Internet video in which he promises a campaign that “tells the American people the truth” and suggests that President Barack Obama doesn’t.

In the new video, the former Minnesota governor formally declares he’s running for president, something aides said he’d do in person Monday morning during a town hall forum in Iowa. Pawlenty bypassed a launch in his home state to make his inaugural appearance as a candidate in the state that holds the leadoff caucuses, which he acknowledges he must fare well in to preserve his hopes of the GOP nomination.

He says in the video that the country needs a president who will be frank with Americans about the severe challenges facing the country and how America can get back on track. He mentions the climbing federal debt and a slow recovery from the economic recession that’s left millions jobless.

“We’re going to have to do more than just give fancy speeches; we’ve had three years of that and it’s not working,”



AP In this May 18, 2011 file photo, former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty talks with reporters prior to a fundraising dinner in Minneapolis.

Pawlenty says, “Join me tomorrow and around the country in the days and weeks ahead. You won’t hear empty promises, you’ll hear solutions.”

The hard swipes at Obama are central to Pawlenty’s effort to prove to GOP primary voters that he’s tough enough to take on the Democrat. He’s combatting an impression that he’s too nice to be an aggressive challenger.

Pawlenty makes no mention of prospective GOP rivals he’ll have to outlast to get his shot at Obama. Among the Repub-

licans who have taken formal steps toward a White House campaign are former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum and Texas Rep. Ron Paul.

The GOP field saw more signs of settling Sunday when Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels took his name out of consideration.

The video released Sunday by Pawlenty is set to soft music that rises to a crescendo—a contrast from the all-out, pulse-raising videos he released as he introduced himself to GOP voters over the last several months. The former two-term governor brags that he “moved our Democratic state in a conservative direction.”

“We need a president who understands that our problems are deep and who has the courage to face them,” Pawlenty says in the spot. “President Obama doesn’t, and I do.”

Democrats planned to counter Pawlenty’s town hall meeting Monday by bringing in Minnesota officials who say he handed off deep budget problems to his successor.

The Democratic National Committee didn’t let Sunday’s video go unanswered.

ing or homes were destroyed. Others found themselves without access to phones because of overburdened phone lines, but able to text and use social media.

Jeff Lehr, a reporter for the Joplin Globe, said he was upstairs in his home when the storm hit but was able to make his way to a basement closet.

“There was a loud huffing noise, my windows started popping. I had to get downstairs, glass was flying. I opened a closet and pulled myself into it,” he told The Associated Press. “Then you could hear everything go. It tore the roof off my house, everybody’s house. I came outside and there was nothing left.”

He said people were walking around the streets outside trying to check on neighbors, but in many cases there were no homes to check.

“There were people wandering the streets, all mud covered,” he said. “I’m talking to them,

asking if they knew where their family is. Some of them didn’t know, and weren’t sure where they were. All the street markers were gone.”

Resident Tom Rogers walked around viewing the damage with his daughter.

“Our house is gone. It’s just gone,” Rogers told The Joplin Globe. “We heard the tornado sirens for the second time. All of a sudden, everything came crashing down on us. We pulled our heads up and there was nothing. It was gone.”

Tornado warnings were posted throughout the evening for other southwestern Missouri counties as the system powered its way east.

In Minneapolis, city spokeswoman Sara Dietrich said the death was confirmed by the Hennepin County medical examiner. She had no other immediate details. Only two of the 29 people injured there were hurt critically.

Obama: ‘67 borders reflect longstanding policy

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama defended his endorsement of Israel’s 1967 boundaries as the basis for a future Palestine, telling America’s pro-Israel lobby Sunday that his views reflected longstanding U.S. policy that needed to be stated clearly.

He also said the Jewish state will face growing isolation without “a credible peace process.”

Obama tried to alleviate concerns that his administration was veering in a pro-Palestinian direction, placing his Mideast policy speech Thursday in the context of Israel’s security. He told the American Israel Public Affairs Committee that those border lines must be subject to negotiated land swaps and said these principles reflected U.S.

thinking dating to President Bill Clinton’s mediation efforts.

“If there’s a controversy, then it’s not based in substance,” Obama said in a well-received speech. “What I did on Thursday was to say publicly what has long been acknowledged privately. I have done so because we cannot afford to wait another decade, or another two decades, or another three decades, to achieve peace.”

The event was eagerly anticipated after Obama outlined his vision for the changing Middle East at the State Department on Thursday and then clashed in a White House meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a day later.

The speech came ahead of a weeklong trip for the president to Europe, where he’ll tend to

ACROSS THE NATION

Mother battles Michigan over daughter’s medication

DETROIT (AP)—Frustration over her physically impaired daughter’s medical care led Maryanne Godboldo to lash out at what she considered state interference and into a 12-hour standoff when Detroit police came to take the girl away. When it ended, the unemployed mother was in handcuffs; her daughter placed in a psychiatric hospital for children. Godboldo now is locked in a bitter battle with Michigan’s Department of Human Services over her right to determine whether the girl should continue taking the anti-psychotic drug Risperdal and the government’s responsibility to look after the child’s welfare.

LA man, 31, arrested in SF Giants fan beating

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A tip from a parole officer led to the arrest Sunday of the key suspect in the attack on a San Francisco Giants fan outside Dodger Stadium after the rival teams’ season opener, a brutal beating that brought an outpouring of support for the victim and outrage in the sports world and beyond. Suspect Giovanni Ramirez, 31,

old friends in the Western alliance and look to secure their help with the political upheaval across the Arab world and the decade-long conflict in Afghanistan.

Netanyahu said in a statement after Obama’s remarks that he supported the president’s desire to advance peace and resolved to work with him to find ways to renew the negotiations. “Peace is a vital need for us all,” Netanyahu said.

The Israeli leader’s tone was far more reserved than last week, when he issued an impassioned rejection of the 1967 borders as “indefensible” and even appeared to publicly admonish Obama after their White House meeting.

Netanyahu was to address the pro-Israel lobby Monday night and Congress on Tuesday.

was detained in an early morning raid on an East Hollywood apartment building and was believed to be the “primary aggressor” in the March 31 beating that left Bryan Stow with brain damage, Police Chief Charlie Beck said at an afternoon news conference at the stadium that included Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Dodgers officials.

Long gay marriage debate in store for Minnesota

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP)—Minnesota has a long and potentially polarizing campaign in store after state lawmakers agreed to allow voters to decide whether to limit civil marriage to heterosexual couples—a prohibition that already exists in state law. The House voted 70-63 just before midnight Saturday after nearly six hours of emotional debate that raised many of the issues likely to resonate in the coming campaign. Critics of the amendment said it would divide families and neighbors and harm the dignity of gay people, while its supporters said the definition of marriage is important enough that voters alone—not judges or legislators—should decide how it’s addressed in the constitution.

Asia

PH leader to discuss Spratlys with China

Militants storm Pakistani navy base

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—Islamist militants stormed a naval base in the Pakistani city of Karachi late Sunday, destroying a U.S.-supplied surveillance aircraft, firing rockets and battling commandos sent to subdue them in one of the most brazen attacks in years, officials said.

At least four navy personnel were killed and nine wounded in fighting at the Naval Station Mehran that was going on more than four hours after the strike began, said navy spokesman Irfan ul Haq. He did not know how many militants had been killed or wounded.

Between 10 and 15 attackers entered the high-security facility before splitting up into smaller groups, setting off explosions and hiding in the sprawling facility, he said.

"We are receiving fire from different directions," said another spokesman, Salman Ali.

The coordinated strike rocked the country's largest city just under three weeks after the death of Osama bin Laden in an American raid on the northwestern garrison city of Abbottabad, an event al-

Qaida allied extremists here have vowed to avenge.

The unilateral American raid triggered a strong backlash against Washington, which is trying to support Pakistan in its fight against militants, as well as rare domestic criticism against the armed forces for failing to detect or prevent the operation.

The fact that militants were able to enter one of the country's largest military bases is another embarrassing blow to the army and will raise questions over whether the attackers had inside information. That they targeted a U.S. supplied aircraft draws attention to American aid to the military, something generals here do not talk about, fearing criticism from the country's fiercely anti-American population.

After heavy American prodding, security forces launched several operations against militants in their heartland close to the border with Afghanistan over the last three years. The extremists have struck back against police and army targets around the country.



AP Chinese Defense Minister Liang Guanglie, center, salutes during arrival honors before meeting with his Philippine counterpart Voltaire Gazmin at the Defense Headquarters in suburban Quezon City, north of Manila, Philippines on Monday May 23, 2011.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Benigno Aquino III said Sunday he will talk to China's visiting defense chief about how to prevent territorial disputes in the South China Sea that could trigger a larger conflict, including the need for a stronger accord to restrict aggression in the region.

Chinese Defense Minister Liang Guanglie arrived Saturday for talks with his Filipino counterpart Voltaire Gazmin and a meeting with Aquino on Monday. His visit comes amid renewed tension over the dis-

puted Spratly Islands, which are claimed by China, the Philippines and four other Asian countries and territories.

The Spratlys and other potentially oil- and gas-rich South China Sea territories have long been regarded as a potential flash point for conflict in Asia. Washington has expressed concerns that the disputes could hamper access to one of the world's busiest commercial sea lanes.

Asked if he will raise the territorial disputes in his meeting with Liang, Aquino said he

would discuss how occasional spats can be avoided.

"The end point is hopefully these incidents could be reduced, otherwise a conflict might really happen," Aquino told reporters. "We should talk, instead of all these sorts of incidents occurring."

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which includes the Philippines and three other countries that claim the Spratlys, signed a nonbinding accord with China in 2002 that discourages aggressive behavior that could spark a

shooting war.

The accord calls on claimants to carry out joint projects to promote harmony. The claimants, however, have failed to agree on the wording of the guidelines needed to pursue such projects.

ASEAN and the U.S. have sought to turn the 2002 accord into a binding "code of conduct" for a stronger guarantee against aggression and possible armed clashes.

Aquino said he has long wanted to discuss with China how such a code could be forged.

Two Chinese patrol boats allegedly harassed a Philippine oil exploration ship into leaving a vast area called the Reed Bank on March 2, prompting a Filipino general to scramble two military aircraft, which arrived at the scene after the Chinese vessels had left, the Philippine military said.

The Philippines protested, saying the Reed Bank, which is near the Spratlys, lies within Philippine territorial waters. China countered by saying that the Spratlys and adjacent waters belong to it.

The Philippine military said Saturday that two unidentified foreign fighter jets were spotted flying near a Spratly island occupied by Filipino troops last May 11. Two Philippine patrol planes failed to identify the jets, which were at a higher altitude and made no hostile moves.

Accounts of militant training camp near bin Laden

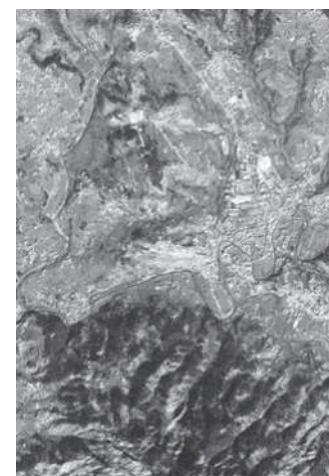
GULI BADRAL, Pakistan (AP)—In this Pakistani village surrounded by forests and glacial streams just 35 miles from where Osama bin Laden was killed, people become uneasy when asked what goes on up the mountain.

It's where villagers avoid cutting pine trees for firewood. And where they know not to ask questions.

When pressed, they say it's a secret training complex for Islamic militants and that the Pakistani army is aware of it—even though the army denies that it exists.

Accounts gathered by The Associated Press in the Ughi area of Mansehra district add to suspicion that Pakistan is playing a "double game"—that is, accepting U.S. aid to fight militants on the one hand but tolerating and in some cases even encouraging and harnessing the power of extremism on the other.

Three men who identified themselves as mujahedeen—militants—told the AP that the training complex is one of at least three in the region that between them house hundreds of recruits.



AP In this January 2011 satellite image, Guli Badral, Pakistan and the surrounding villages and mountains are shown.

The mission, the three say, is aimed at taking recruits to Kashmir to fight Pakistan's archenemy, India. But Kashmiri veterans have been known to join forces with al-Qaida and other terror groups, including those fighting the U.S. and its allies in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

The charges of Pakistani duplicity have gathered strength in the aftermath of the May 2 U.S. raid against bin Laden, who was

hiding in the army town of Abbottabad and a short walk from a military academy. Pakistani officials have denied any collusion, but the country is now coming under renewed pressure to abandon its links to all Islamist militant networks.

In 2001, Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said the country was severing its ties to jihadi groups amid intense American pressure following the Sept. 11 attacks. But few are convinced that has happened.

The Mansehra area, a roughly four-hour drive north of the capital, Islamabad, was known to have hosted state-backed militant groups in the 1990s. The region was considered ideal for such activities largely because it is so close to Kashmir—about 25 miles from Pakistani-administered Kashmir, and about 45 miles from the boundary of the Indian-controlled part of Kashmir. Both countries claim the territory in its entirety.

When contacted by the AP last week, the army denied there are any training camps or any facilities hidden away in the Mansehra area. "The allegations

are baseless," said spokesman Maj. Gen. Athar Abbas.

But in Guli Badral, locals say both extremists and men they presume to be soldiers are a familiar sight in the village square, where they shop for meat, flour and beans before getting back into pickup trucks for the two-hour trip along a rough track to the training camp.

The three militants who spoke to the AP about the camps did not give their names and asked that the names of their organizations not be published. They said there's an army checkpoint on the road leading to one of the larger camps, near the village of Khatai. Militants and villagers alike gave the same advice to an AP team: Do not attempt to get any closer. It's too dangerous.

At least one of the militants appeared motivated to speak out because of anger at the army, which he said was no longer so supportive as it once was. Before 2001, Kashmiri-focused militant groups had offices across the country where they could openly recruit and allegedly received considerable state funds.

ASIAN BRIEFS

North Korea's Kim said to be in eastern China city

BEIJING (AP)—North Korean leader Kim Jong Il reportedly arrived in eastern China by train Sunday on his third trip in about a year to his country's main ally, and a Chinese leader told South Korea's president Beijing invited Kim to learn from Chinese reforms. Kim, whose rare foreign trips are cloaked in secrecy, arrived late in the evening at Yangzhou's train station, reported the Yonhap news agency and YTN television network, both citing unidentified sources in the city west of Shanghai. Yonhap said he was expected to travel to a guesthouse by vehicle, and YTN said he was expected to stay in the city about three days.

SKorea, US to probe veterans' Agent Orange claims

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea says the United States has agreed on a joint investigation after American veterans claimed they buried large amounts of Agent Orange in a U.S. military base in South Ko-

rea. South Korea and U.S. media recently cited former U.S. military service members saying the toxic herbicide was buried at Camp Carroll in southern South Korea in the 1970s. That raises concerns about lasting environmental damage and health risks. KPHO CBS 5 News in Phoenix, Arizona, first reported the claims.

Thai police arrest suspected tiger trafficker

BANGKOK (AP)—Police have arrested a man suspected of being a key player in one of Thailand's largest tiger trafficking rings, police and a wildlife conservation group said Sunday. Authorities had been searching for the 49-year-old Thai man since last year, when they issued a warrant for his arrest after seizing a Bengal tiger cub during a separate operation, police said in a statement.

Police believe the network is buying tigers and selling them to purchasers mainly in China via land routes in neighboring Laos and Vietnam, said Chanadda Thanikulap of the FREELAND Foundation, an anti-trafficking group based in Thailand.

Three men who identified themselves as mujahedeen—militants—told the AP that the training complex is one of at least three in the region that between them house hundreds of recruits.

World

Yemen leader again balks at leaving; tension grows

SANA, Yemen (AP)—Armed with guns, knives and swords, supporters of Yemen's leader trapped U.S., European and Arab ambassadors at a diplomatic mission in new turmoil that swept across the capital Sunday as the president refused to sign an agreement calling for him to step down in 30 days.

Security forces broke up the crowd after several hours of letting them besiege the embassy. But President Ali Abdullah Saleh's balking at the U.S.-backed deal threatened to wreck hopes for a peaceful resolution to the chaos that has consumed this key Arab nation, where hundreds of thousands have protested for three months, defying a bloody crackdown, to demand his ouster.

If the mediation collapses, many fear further deterioration of the political situation, including an escalation of armed conflict between Saleh's loyalists and military units that have joined the opposition.

At nightfall Sunday, tensions were high in Sanaa, the capital. Pro-government gunmen and soldiers locked down main streets around the capital with roadblocks, while tens of thousands of anti-Saleh demonstrators were massed at their protest camp in a central Sanaa square, worried that a new crackdown could ensue.

Saleh refused twice before to sign the agreement. But this weekend it had appeared he



In this image taken from Yemen State TV, Sunday May 22, 2011, showing Yemen President Ali Abdullah Saleh, behind 3rd from right, and U.S. ambassador, yellow tie at right, witnesses unidentified ruling party leaders signing an agreement for the president to step down in 30 days, during a ceremony at the Presidential Palace in Sanaa, Yemen.

was finally relenting, under intense pressure from his allies, the United States and Gulf Arab countries that mediated the accord. The opposition parties signed the accord on Saturday, and the Yemeni president grudgingly promised he would sign the following day. Instead, the mercurial leader showed his determination to cling to the power he has held for 32 years, despite increasing isolation. His

regime unleashed hundreds of armed loyalists into the streets of Sanaa in an apparently orchestrated campaign to demand he not step down. They demonstrated outside several embassies and blocked the road in front of the presidential palace, chanting, "We will not permit the president's ouster."

The American ambassador, along with the ambassadors of Britain, the European Union,

Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab nations, had gathered at the United Arab Emirates Embassy, waiting to be taken to the presidential palace for the expected signing at noon.

They were besieged by a mob of hundreds of Saleh loyalists, wielding knives, swords and automatic rifles, diplomats inside the mission and witnesses said. The crowd blocked the entrances to the mission, trapping the

diplomats inside. At one point, they attacked a convoy bringing the chief mediator of the accord—Abdullah bin Rashid al-Zayani, head of the Gulf Cooperation Council. They pounded on the car as it entered the compound, witnesses said.

Hours later, Yemeni military helicopters ferried the U.S. ambassador and al-Zayani to the presidential palace to witness the signing, witnesses said. Yemeni

In rebel Benghazi, slayings target Gadhafi agents

BENGHAZI, Libya (AP)—The body found on the outskirts of Benghazi fit a pattern: legs and arms bound, a single gunshot to the forehead, a victim who was once a member of Moammar Gadhafi's feared internal security apparatus.

A string of assassinations in recent weeks of the embattled strongman's former interrogators is raising fears of a death squad bent on vengeance in this otherwise peaceful rebel bastion in northeast Libya.

There have been at least three former Gadhafi agents found slain in recent weeks, accord-

ing to Amnesty International and the rebel's newly created justice ministry. However, an officer in the rebels' own security agency indicated the toll is likely higher.

He said the bodies of six Gadhafi agents had been found in just one week at the beginning of the month.

All six had been on a closely guarded list of suspects, he said. "But each time we put a person's name on the list, when we sent someone to arrest them, we found they'd just been killed," said the officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he is not

permitted to speak to reporters.

Critics worry that a retaliation campaign could mirror the regime's repressive methods, including extrajudicial executions without charges or trial. So far, the rebel leadership shows little will to try to hunt down the killers. The rebels' interim civilian administration has organized a fledgling judicial system even as the war continues, but its nascent courts and prisons are too overwhelmed to deal with common crimes, much less political killings. And many have little sympathy for former Gadhafi security officials notorious

for torture and brutality.

No one has been arrested in the recent spate of killings, and the judge heading the rebels' judicial department indicated no investigation is planned.

"Many murders have been committed since the revolution. Some we know the criminals, some we do not," Judge Jamal Bennour told The Associated Press.

"But it is very hard at this time for the police to arrest a man carrying a weapon," he added. Most armed men are fighters in what is now being called the Liberation Army of Free Libya.

Scientists said the eruption was unlikely to have the same global impact as last year's eruption 80 miles (130 kilometers) away at the Eyjafjallajokull volcano in an effort to prevent any pro-reform demonstrations from taking place. Riot police armed with truncheons

were plunged into darkness. But scientists said another widespread aviation shutdown is unlikely, in part because the ash from this eruption is coarser and falling to Earth more quickly.

The volcano, which lies beneath the ice of the uninhabited Vatnajokull glacier in southeast Iceland, began erupting Saturday for the first time since 2004. It was the volcano's largest eruption in 100 years.

The ash from Grimsvotn—about 120 miles (200 kilo-

meters) east of the capital, Reykjavik—turned the sky black Sunday and rained down on nearby buildings, cars and fields. Civil protection workers helped farmers get their animals into shelter and urged residents to wear masks and stay indoors. No ash fell on the capital.

Scientists said the eruption was unlikely to have the same global impact as last year's eruption 80 miles (130 kilometers) away at the Eyjafjallajokull (pronounced ay-yah-FYAH-lah-

yer-kuhl) volcano, which left 10 million travelers stranded around the world.

"It is not likely to be anything on the scale that was produced last year when the Eyjafjallajokull volcano erupted," University of Iceland geophysicist Pall Einarsson told The Associated Press. "That was an unusual volcano, an unusual ash size distribution and unusual weather pattern, which all conspired together to make life difficult in Europe."

WORLD BRIEFS

Mexico mass graves of 219 signal major cartel rift

DURANGO, Mexico (AP)—The vacant car repair lot hardly looks out of place in a vibrant but gritty part of the northern colonial city of Durango, famous as the set for John Wayne westerns. Only a closer look reveals the secrets hidden at "Servicios Multiples Carita Medina," clues to exactly what kind of "multiple services" were rendered. The freshly turned soil is sprinkled with lime to kill the smell and littered with discarded Latex gloves and an empty cardboard box: "Adult Cadaver Bag. 600 gauge, Long Zipper, For Cadavers of up to 75 inches. 15 pieces."

Police disperse democracy demos in Morocco capital

RABAT, Morocco (AP)—Moroccan police on Sunday spent hours chasing hundreds of pro-democracy activists through the streets of the capital in an effort to prevent any pro-reform demonstrations from taking place. Riot police armed with truncheons

charged any attempts at protest gatherings, injuring some activists and hauling others off to waiting police trucks. Morocco's February 20 movement, which is calling for political reform and greater democracy in the North African monarchy, says that the government appears to be implementing a new zero tolerance policy for protests.

Passenger jet makes emergency landing in Israel

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli rescue services say an El Al jet with 260 passengers and crippled landing gear has safely made an emergency landing at Israel's international airport. Rescue services spokesman Zaki Heller says the jet made a successful landing at dawn Monday as dozens of medical crews stood by and local hospitals were put on alert. Earlier, media reported that the Boeing 777 had been en route to Newark, New Jersey, when the problem was discovered and it was forced to turn back. The jet dumped its fuel into the Mediterranean in preparation for the landing.

Focus

Mideast peace talks would face huge obstacles

JERUSALEM (AP)—President Barack Obama wants Israelis and Palestinians to return to the bargaining table, and he repeated the call Sunday in a speech to Israel supporters. But it seems unlikely this will happen anytime soon—and even if it did, the sides would find a formidable array of obstacles to agreement.

Obama is clearly aware of this, telling the American Israel Public Affairs Committee that “no matter how hard it may be to start meaningful negotiations under the current circumstances, we must acknowledge that a failure to try is not an option.”

“Even as we are clear-eyed about the difficult challenges before us ... I hope we do not give up on that vision of peace,” he added.

Among these challenges are huge gaps on important issues between Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, a right-winger for whom acquiescence to the very idea of Palestinian independence—popular around the world and now widely accepted in Israel, too—was a major ideological leap.

But even if a more compliant Israeli leadership should return to power, any negotiators would face some daunting obstacles:

BORDERS

Obama made waves with his declaration Thursday that a peace treaty should be “based on the 1967 lines with mutually agreed swaps.” It differed only in nuance from previous U.S. positions—a point Obama stressed Sunday—but hearing the principle stated clearly by the U.S. president had been a major Palestinian objective, and it touched a deep nerve in Israel, too.

Netanyahu swiftly declared the 44-year-old lines “indefensible” from a military point of view. And a look at the map shows why: Israel would be about 10 miles (about 15 kilometers) wide at its narrowest point; the West Bank surrounds the Israeli part of Jerusalem on three sides; and, on a clear day, the West Bank’s strategic highlands are clearly visible from Tel Aviv, where about a quarter of Israelis live. If there is any chance that a future Palestine could turn hostile, these borders are a challenge.

Are they sacrosanct—or somehow enshrined in international law?

American officials are generally careful to use the word “lines” and not “borders” when referring to the demarcation that lasted from the end of the 1948-49 war after Israel declared independence until the 1967 war when it expanded its territory. That is no coincidence: these are temporary armistice lines between Israel and Jordan in the case of the West Bank, and Israel and Egypt in the case of Gaza. Those two countries captured the areas—previously part of British-ruled Palestine—in that 1948-49 war.

Might Israel keep some of its 1967 booty?

That largely depends on how hard the Palestinians press, and how much

leverage they can summon up. U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 of 1967 seemed to leave the door open—calling for “withdrawal of Israeli armed forces from territories occupied in the recent conflict.” It avoided use of “the territories” and left everyone to debate whether this meant Israel could keep some areas.

On Sunday, Obama predicted the sides eventually “will negotiate a border that is different than the one that existed on June 4, 1967 ... to account for the changes that have taken place over the last 44 years, including the new demographic realities on the ground.” That was a reference to the settlements Israel has built—and one the Palestinians will not appreciate.

Borders were supposed to be the simplest issue in peace talks, yet in a numbing two decades of talking the sides could never quite agree.



In this Friday, May 20, 2011 file photo, President Barack Obama, right, meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, left, of Israel in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington.

be evacuated. developments in the occupied area of the city, alongside about 300,000 Palestinians and 300,000 Jews in the western part of Jerusalem.

The sides have discussed the principle of each keeping those areas of the city where its people live—but again, without much detail. On the ground, such a division would yield an astoundingly kaleidoscopic jumble, with islands of Jews surrounded by Palestinian areas and vice versa. A light railway planned for the city could end up crossing several borders a minute.

Jerusalem’s mayor, Nir Barkat, put aside arguments about national rights and religious holy sites and argued plainly, in a meeting with foreign media this month, that a division of the city was no longer a practical possibility. Yet to the Palestinians, Jerusalem is the heart of their country, and it is difficult to see them accepting a merely face-saving formula—such as access to, or some sovereignty over, their holy sites. Peace probably requires doing what Barkat argues is impossible.

REFUGEES

The Palestinians have always demanded a “right of return” for Palestinian refugees and their millions of descendants to their families’ previous homes in Israel—even though in most cases the homes, and in some even the villages, no longer exist.

For Israelis across the political spectrum this is a non-starter. The main reason they did not annex the West Bank and Gaza—and the reason why many are willing to part with such strategic territories—can be boiled down to a desire to ensure their Jewish majority.

On occasion, Palestinian officials would hint that a formula was possible that would satisfy everyone—perhaps, for example, with the right declared in principle but implemented only for a small number. A 2002 peace initiative by the Arab League made only indirect reference to the refugees, giving some Israelis hope.

But the deep Palestinian yearning is still there, seeming to grow stronger with each generation that grows up disenfranchised in countries such as Syria and Lebanon. Youth who have never seen their ancestral land carry keys to vanished family homes. Earlier this month, thousands risked their lives trying to breach Israel’s borders, and several were killed by bullets fired from rattled Israeli troops.

At the White House on Friday, Netanyahu said the Palestinians must be told clearly that a return is “not going to happen.” With this statement, the often divisive Netanyahu spoke for the vast majority of Israelis. In his speech a day earlier, Obama had sidestepped the vexing issue.

According to the original timetable of the 1990s, a comprehensive deal ending a century of conflict was to be reached by May 1999. That never happened, and still seems far from imminent today. What, then, are the alternatives?

For one thing, the Palestinians say

they will ask the United Nations for recognition of a state along the pre-1967 lines in September. Obama is trying to dissuade them.

If the Palestinians proceed, the gambit promises to be messy. Since the United States can veto any move in the Security Council, the Palestinians’ bid would likely pass only in the General Assembly that has declarative but not practical powers. Still, such a recognition could spark other moves, including economic boycotts against Israel and mass public protest in the West Bank. Israel does not take it lightly.

A host of other scenarios, in the short and long term, could possibly unfold:

■ An interim deal: Israel would probably jump at a plan establishing a Palestinian state on most of the West Bank and all of Gaza, leaving Jerusalem and the other issues for later, and not requiring the Palestinians to forswear all future claims. The Palestinians, fearing the temporary will become permanent, reject this out of hand—but world pressure might change this.

■ A unilateral pullout: In 2006, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said he would unilaterally pull out of most of the West Bank, essentially implementing the interim scenario without Palestinian agreement. The Gaza precedent now works against this in Israeli public opinion: Israel pulled out of the coastal strip, Hamas militants soon seized it, and the area has been used as a launching pad for rockets against Israel. But some variant of unilateral pullout may regain favor, especially if Israel faces mass Palestinian unrest that gets out of hand.

Some speak of removing some settlers—but keeping the army in place for now.

■ Outside intervention: It seems far-fetched today, but some Palestinians speak of asking the U.N. for a “trusteeship” over their areas, not unlike the British “mandate” over all of Palestine conferred by the League of Nations in 1922. Israel would find it tough to rebuff. It seems unlikely except as a very last resort, because it would probably require the dismantling of the Palestinian Authority and a sort of admission that the Palestinians aren’t ready for independence.

■ A binational state: Few on either side say they want this today. But if Israel cannot extricate itself from the West Bank, in the long run it would face pressure to give the Palestinians the right to vote, much as South Africa did when ending white minority rule. The Palestinians are already about half the population in Israel plus the West Bank and Gaza—and barring massive Jewish immigration they will very likely become the majority through their faster birthrate. In an irony of history, Jewish nationalism—in bonding Israel to the areas it conquered in 1967—would have helped bring down the Jewish nation-state.

1967, it was part of Jordan—but a 1947 U.N. partition plan for Palestine called for internationalization of a wide area around the entire city after a British departure.

During past peace talks, the sides spoke of each controlling its “own” holy sites—but were not known to have reached a detailed understanding of how two states could divide between them an ancient enclave full of warrens and alleyways, ancient ruins and underground tunnels and excavations. Would there be a border? Who would be in charge of security? At one point there was even talk of the most explosive site—known as the Temple Mount to Jews, and Haram as-Sharif to Muslims—being placed under “divine sovereignty” to sidestep the problem.

But even beyond the Old City, Jerusalem’s current demographics defy a division anywhere near as clean as, for example, the wall that once divided East and West Berlin.

After 1967, Israel expanded the municipal borders into the West Bank. Over the years it has ringed the Arab-populated part of the city with Jewish neighborhoods. The Palestinians call them “settlements” no different from those in the West Bank, and indeed, some have the appearance of distinct hilltop communities. Some 200,000 Jews now live in such

Overdrive

2011 Odyssey brings Honda's cachet to minivan category

By TOM INCANTALUPO
NEWSDAY



2011 Honda Odyssey begins at about \$28,600 with freight.

The shift to SUVs in the 1990s, combined with recession and rising gasoline prices in the 2000s, has left only three main contenders in the minivan market: the Dodge Grand Caravan/Chrysler Town and Country duo; the Toyota Sienna and this week's subject, the Honda Odyssey, redesigned for the 2011 model year.

All are strong contenders: They drive well, considering a typical weight of about 4,000 pounds; they seat at least seven people in three rows. All will happily swallow a giant-screen TV still in its box without so as much as a burp. All are replete with storage cubbies and cupholders and are available with rear-seat entertainment systems to keep the kids quiet.

So selecting one is no easy task—and it gets more difficult if one considers the lesser players in the field like the Kia Sedona, VW Routan (made by

NUTS & BOLTS

As tested:

Engine: 3.5-liter V-6, 248 hp.
Fuel: Regular.

Transmission: Six-speed automatic, front wheel drive.

Safety: Six air bags; 4-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock, stability control and brake assist; tire pressure monitoring; fog and daytime running lamps; rearview camera; obstacle detection and warning; blind spot warning; heated outside mirrors; tire pressure monitoring.

Place of assembly: Lincoln, Ala.

Cargo room: min/max: 38.4 / 147.4 cubic feet.

EPA fuel economy estimates: 19 mpg city, 28 highway.

Price as driven: \$44,030 with freight.

Bottom line: One of the best in a small class.

Chrysler), Nissan Quest and smaller Mazda5.

The Odyssey has going for it Honda's reputation for good-quality vehicles—just as the Sienna is one of many Toyotas that get high marks from the likes of Consumer Reports based on reader experiences.

The Chryslers, however, have been perennial bad boys in the magazine's ratings. J.D. Power and Associates, on the other hand, deems the Honda, Dodge and Chrysler minivans about average in dependability over three years of ownership and in quality in the first three months but says the Sienna beats them all in both categories.

I averaged in the low 20s on gas mileage in the Odyssey tester. The Environmental Protection Agency says to expect up to 28 mpg on highways on regular gas—3 mpg more than a Sienna with only four cylinders and 2 mpg better than a Grand Caravan with the stan-

dard 3.6-liter V-6.

On sale since September, the 2011 Odyssey begins at about \$28,600 with freight.

Engine and transmission are essentially carryovers from the previous model, although for 2011 the topmost Touring models, like my tester, get a new, more economical six-speed gearbox instead of a five-speed. The new model is about 2 inches wider, and so is its "track."

A new "three-mode" design for the second row lets you expand the distance between the seats to increase comfort. The second-row middle seat in most equipment levels now can move forward, which brings child seats within easier reach of a parent in the first row.

The 2011 Odyssey gets a topmost, five-star safety rating from the federal government. It is rated "good" by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety.

Straighten out a temperamental gauge

By BRAD BERGHOULD
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: I own a 1999 BMW 528i. Lately, the temperature gauge has developed a peculiarity. While driving in the city, the indicator routinely moves to and stays in the "normal" position. However, while driving at high speeds, the indicator moves slowly back toward the blue "cold" logo and stays there until the speed slows down—when it returns to "normal." Is this a serious problem? Any idea what is causing it? What is your advice as to what I should do?—Malvern Powell

ANSWER: Of the many problems one may encounter with an automobile, this is one of the best to have. Cooling system problems usually tilt in the opposite direction, resulting in an

overheating condition, which can lead to serious engine damage. An engine that runs too cold is not desirable either, as increased emissions and engine wear will occur, along with a reduction in fuel economy.

Your BMW differs from most vehicles in that it utilizes an electric heater in conjunction with the engine thermostat. The heater, when activated by the digital motor electronics, or DME—an other name for electronic control module— influences the thermostat, causing it to open wider than coolant temperature alone would suggest. This may occur should the engine or radiator outlet temperature rise above limits, engine load becomes high, intake air temperature is above a specified value, or vehicle speed is greater than 110 mph.

Because your engine temperature rises normally during

warm-up and remains within the normal range at lower speeds, it appears the cooling system and thermostat are functioning correctly. My belief is the DME may be intervening, perhaps in error or in response to driving conditions. BMW issued a voluntary emissions recall campaign in 2000 related to engine thermostat problems, which could lead to a fluctuating temperature gauge, low heater output and possibly an illuminated check engine lamp. Check your under-hood driver's side strut tower for a sticker indicating this recall was completed. If you don't see the sticker, check the manufacturer's name on the front of the thermostat housing, toward the front and top of the engine. If it says "BEHR," it's the troublesome one that should have been replaced.

I'd consult with either a BMW

dealer or independent repair shop with BMW familiarity for diagnosis. Checking for an accurate temperature gauge reading (comparing it to the scan tool's ECT sensor value) would be a good start, followed by a check of the DME command to the heater element while driving at higher speeds. It's also very important that the cooling system be full and free of air pockets for proper cooling, thermostat regulation and accurate sensor feedback to occur.

This should be a fairly easy problem to put to bed, thanks to your excellent job observing and explaining the symptoms.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.



Circumvent or replace quick-to-fail battery

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: My question has to do with our 2005 Acura RL and 2008 Acura TL. When we travel and leave one or both cars parked in our garage or in a long-term parking lot, we always return to find the car with a dead battery. The most recent episode occurred in February when we left the '05 for a week in Florida when we went on a cruise. We returned to a dead battery and had to call AAA. The dealership said there is nothing we can do about this because the battery has to power the car's computer even when the car isn't in use. Does this mean that we will always return to a dead battery after leaving the car for a few days?

ANSWER: Typical "parasitic losses"—current flow with everything turned off—from modern vehicle electronics are in the 50-milliamper range or less, meaning a fully charged battery should hold its charge well enough to start the engine after sitting for several weeks.

Have the battery properly charged, then test its load and/or capacitance to determine its condition. Modern fuel-injected engines tend to start so quickly that a weak battery may be difficult to identify in daily driving. I suspect you'll find that in both batteries the ability to hold a charge and to deliver high starting amperage is compromised.

Testing both cars for excess parasitic losses might identify a problem, and new batteries might eliminate the issue for several years. In the short run, the quick fix is to install a master electrical switch or simply disconnect the battery while the vehicle is parked for any significant length of time. This is a cheap anti-theft system as well.

Granted, the engine management system will have to relearn its fuel curve and idle characteristics, and you'll have to reset all the presets on the stereo and HVAC system, but at least you'll know the car will start when you return.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Q: Our 2010 Toyota Camry V6 has a noisy engine. For the first several miles, it sounds like old-fashioned lifter clatter. The noise is most noticeable under light acceleration, and it goes away when the engine reaches operating temperature. The Toyota dealer says the noise is normal. Is it?

A: Most likely, yes. Fuel injectors in today's high-pressure fuel injection systems—particularly in newer, direct-injection systems—tend to make an audible clicking sound, particularly when the engine is started cold, because of the extra fuel delivered, and under acceleration.

The easiest way to determine where the clicking is coming from is to use an automotive stethoscope or a long wooden dowel rod to "listen" to the injectors and valve train. Unfortunately, getting access to these requires a fair amount of disassembly.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Q: There seems to be a movement back to four-cylinder engines with turbochargers. Do factory-installed turbochargers shorten engine life?

A: I sure hope not. The last three vehicles we've owned have been turbocharged VW Passats. We traded our '05 with 140,000 miles for an '07, which has 63,000 miles. And our youngest son drove a hopped-up turbo Jetta for well over 100,000 miles. No engine or turbo problems of any kind.

With today's better-quality lubricants—especially synthetic motor oils—along with water-cooled turbochargers, reliability isn't a problem.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Q: I have a 1994 GMC Sonoma with an intermittent problem. After driving a few miles, my speedometer goes erratic, the service engine light comes on, the brake light comes on, it backfires once or twice, shifts up and down a couple of times and then is OK for a while. I had it checked at a garage, and they said it may be one of the computers.

A: I suspect the vehicle speed sensor. If the signal from this sensor is lost, the speedometer won't read correctly, and the computer won't know how fast the vehicle is traveling or what gear to be in.

Paul Brand, author of *How to Repair Your Car*, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.

Life & Style



By JON BREAM
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

MINNEAPOLIS—We checked the itinerary: Bob Dylan's Never Ending Tour does not have a concert scheduled for Tuesday. So he won't be celebrating his 70th birthday onstage. What will he do?

A friend of Dylan since they attended camp together as pre-teens, St. Paul businessman Dick Cohn has witnessed some Dylan birthdays. When the Minnesota icon turned 50, Cohn shared his mother's advice with Dylan. "She told me that once you turn 50, you stop telling people your age. Bob said, 'That's easy for you. When I turned 50, my picture was on the cover of Time magazine.'"

A snapshot from that day captured Dylan's face aglow—just like any other birthday boy—blowing out the candles on a cake provided by a friend. Cohn doesn't know what Dylan will be doing Tuesday, but we asked some other music stars to celebrate his 70th with a favorite Dylan story or a reflection on his career.



Encounters with Dylan:

■ ROBBIE ROBERTSON

Guitarist of The Band, he toured with Dylan in 1966 in his first electric band, and again in 1974.

"The first time we toured with him, everybody booed and threw stuff at us. I have to give him a lot of credit for not bowing to the pressure. The next time we did it, everybody cheered and said they knew it all along. We didn't change a thing, but the world revolved and the world changed. And I thought: 'That's an interesting experiment in terror.'"

■ SHERYL CROW

She opened for him in the mid-1990s and he later gave her a then-unrecorded song, "Mississippi."

"The power went out on us onstage and I was in the middle of 'Leaving Las Vegas' so I continued to sing it at the top of my lungs so people could still hear me. He was standing on the side of the stage. The next night he called me into his dressing room beforehand and said, 'I watched you. I believe you've got something. I'm always available if you ever need any advice about the business or anything else.' And he's been very consistent from that point on. Every time I see him, he's been a very dear friend and I've reached out to him on a couple occasions about what I'm doing

On the eve of his 70th birthday, Bob Dylan isn't talking, but others are

The 'trapeze artist'

Others may call him the poet laureate of rock and roll, but Bob Dylan will have none of it. "I don't call myself a poet ..." he has said. "I'm a trapeze artist." The maddeningly elusive, ironic, brilliant artist with the signature raspy voice—whose lyrics helped define a generation—turns 70 on May 24.

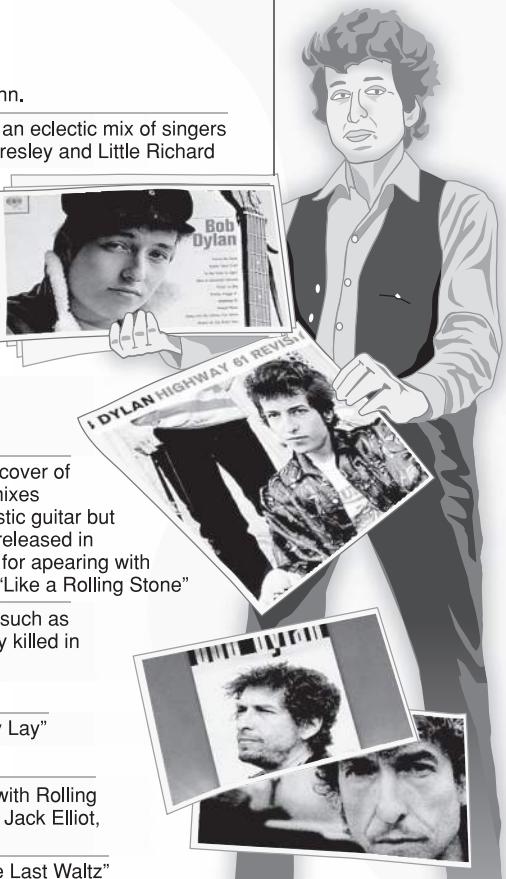
Career highlights

- 1941 Born Robert Zimmerman on May 24 in Duluth, Minn.
- 1948 Early years Learns to play harmonica, piano, guitar; listens to an eclectic mix of singers from Woody Guthrie and Hank Williams to Elvis Presley and Little Richard
- 1961 Moves to New York City; debuts as the opening act for bluesman John Lee Hooker in Greenwich Village; signs with Columbia Records
- 1962 First album, *Bob Dylan*
- 1963 Makes his mark with *The Freewheelin' Bob Dylan*, which includes the classic antiwar songs, "Blowin' in the Wind," "Masters of War" and "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall"
- 1964 Two albums: *The Times They Are a-Changin'* and *Another Side of Bob Dylan*, including such songs as "It Ain't Me, Babe"
- 1965 Watershed year: Rock band The Byrds records a cover of "Mr. Tamborine Man"; *Bringing It All Back Home* mixes acoustic, electric; on U.K. tour, he sports an acoustic guitar but plenty of attitude (recorded in "Don't Look Back," released in 1967); after being booted off the stage at Newport for appearing with an electric guitar, he rocks with his first major hit, "Like a Rolling Stone"
- 1966 *Blonde on Blonde*, a career milestone with songs such as "Just Like a Woman," recorded in Nashville; nearly killed in a motorcycle accident in July
- 1967 *John Wesley Harding*, a folk-country album
- 1969 *Nashville Skyline*, includes the mellow "Lady Lady Lay"
- 1974 *Planet Waves*, first No. 1 album
- 1975 *Blood on the Tracks*, including "Hurricane"; tours with Rolling Thunder, which includes such artists as Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Joan Baez, Allen Ginsberg and Joni Mitchell
- 1976 Farewell concert with The Band, recorded as "The Last Waltz"
- 1979 Stuns the music world with release of first of three fundamentalist Christian albums, *Slow Train Coming*; the cut "Gotta Serve Somebody" wins him a Grammy
- 1985 *Biograph*, a retrospective boxed set
- 1988 Inducted into Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; said to have begun "The Never Ending Tour"
- 1991 *The Bootleg Series, Vol. 1-3*
- 1992 30th anniversary tribute concert at Madison Square Garden
- 1997 *Time Out of Mind*, an original album marking a renaissance; wins Kennedy Center Award for artistic excellence
- 2001 *Love and Theft*
- 2006 *Modern Times*
- 2008 Wins a Pulitzer Prize for his "profound impact on popular music and American culture"

Source: bobdylan.com, The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, IMDB biography.com

Mr. Tamborine Man

His career spans five decades, moving from folk to rock to country to gospel



"He'll be America's greatest troubadour, if he doesn't explode."
Pete Seeger

"Bob freed your mind the way Elvis freed your body."
Bruce Springsteen

Graphic: Pat Carr, Robert Dorrell © 2011 MCT

and what direction I'm going."

■ AL KOOPER

He played keyboards on Dylan's "Highway 61 Revisited" (1965) and "Blonde on Blonde" (1966).

"'Highway 61' was like a proto-punk album because no one acted as a producer, per se, or music director—plus Dylan's attitude, musically and singing-wise. When we went to Nashville (to record "Blonde") it was the opposite. He brought me along to play and as music director. The musicians were the best players in town but they didn't know much about Bob Dylan; he was off their radar.

"Bob was still writing the lyrics when he came to town. He taught me the song, then I'd play it over and over again on the piano and he'd sit there and write lyrics. The sessions were incredibly long. He'd take a break and still be writing lyrics—maybe for sometimes five hours without budging from the piano—and (the musicians) would play ping-pong, watch television, eat. And when he was ready, we'd go in and cut it."

■ LUCINDA WILLIAMS

She met Dylan in the late 1970s at New York's Gerdes Folk City club when she was starting out.

"I was asked to sit in and do a couple of songs. Dylan was sitting at the bar with this tall, beautiful black woman. I didn't realize he was in there. (The owner) said to me, 'I want you to meet a friend of mine.' And I turned around and he said (Italian

accent), 'This is a-Bobby.' And it's still not registering. 'Bobby a-Dylan.' I put out my hand. He leaned over and said, 'Keep in touch. We're going to be going on the road soon.'"

■ BOB GAUDIO

A member of the Four Seasons and later a songwriter/producer, he met Dylan in 1990.

"I was introduced to him by Neil Diamond when we were recording 'The Jazz Singer.' I apologized for our Wonder Who (a Four Seasons novelty project with manipulated lead vocals to sound like mice), extremely playful version of his not-so-playful 'Don't Think Twice, It's All Right.' He replied: 'I wasn't sure the first time I heard it that it was my song.'"

■ ROSANNE CASH

She worked with Dylan twice in 1992.

"He invited me to sing backup on David Letterman's 10th anniversary special at Radio City Music Hall. The background singers for 'Like a Rolling Stone' were me, Mavis Staples, Emmylou Harris, Michelle Shocked and Carole King. Then at his 30th anniversary (with Columbia Records) show at Madison Square Garden, I sang 'You Ain't Goin' Nowhere' with Mary Chapin Carpenter and Shawn Colvin. My dad (Johnny Cash) introduced us. I remember I asked Bob before the show if he was nervous, and he said, 'I wish I was.'"

■ MERLE HAGGARD

The country legend opened for Dylan in 2005-06.

"I was honored to go to his soundchecks every day. He came over, asked my opinion a couple of times. I don't think Bob Dylan asks very many people an opinion on anything. He asked, 'How did the whole band sound?' I responded to him and his soundman came over to me about eight months later and said, 'What the (bleep) did you say to Bob?' I said, 'How much bass pedal do you want?' The soundman said, 'Goddamn, he's been on my ass about that bass drum ever since you talked to him.'"



Dylan as Lyricist:

■ KRIS KRISTOFFERSON

"When I was a teenager, popular songwriters were writing 'How Much Is That Doggie in the Window.' He lifted songwriting up into a different art form. He's the reason that the rest of us who followed got any respect around the world."

■ LUCINDA WILLIAMS

"He was the first one that brought the two worlds together—the literary world and the folk-rock world."

■ ROD STEWART

"Absolutely overwhelming. He was a tremendous influence on me. Probably the all-time great lyricist. I can't say enough about Bob."

■ BOB SEGER

"There's never been anybody as good as him as far as writing lyrics. Ever. He'll never do any wrong in my book. But he should take better care of his voice."

■ DHANI HARRISON

Son of George Harrison, who played with Dylan in the Traveling Wilburys.

"He put words to things that no one in my father's generation or in my generation can. There's no one like him. He's going to cut you in half with his tongue."



His Personality:

■ KRIS KRISTOFFERSON

"I can't say I was ever comfortable around him but he made me laugh and I really respect him. He's kind of a genius. He's totally unpredictable. He has an innocence of genius. There's something about him almost like a little child."

■ CRISSIE HYNDE

"I recently read a great interview with him in Mojo magazine. He's just so lucid and poetic and funny. Yeah, he's the man."



His Legacy:

■ BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

"He is the father of my country."

■ CARLOS SANTANA

"He's a great mirror for humans. We'll learn about ourselves. His music is forever. It transcended the '60s. He's the voice of just not one generation but he created some serious forever-hymns. And he did it when he was in his early 20s."

■ RANDY NEWMAN

"The work he did is just about the best it ever got. The early, early stuff. There was great song after great song on those records. It was the highest point in terms of lyrics that pop music has ever reached."

■ PETE TOWNSHEND OF THE WHO

"His contribution is as big or bigger than Brian Wilson or the Beatles, on the shaping and sharpening of modern pop music. True, in the late '50s there were rock artists like Chuck Berry who used smart lyrics, and those like Woody Guthrie who wrote political songs. But Dylan gathered it all up and made it seem possible to write a song about anything at all—he tore down every boundary and yet remained true to a set of strong musical traditions. In other words, he did the impossible."

■ MERLE HAGGARD

"Take him out of the picture and it would be a mighty hole. Not just in his music but in Johnny Cash music and other songs you didn't know he's written. The list goes on. The biggest impression he made with me was when he sang with just his guitar: 'The answer my friend is blowin' in the wind.' It don't get no bleepin' better than that."

Malick's 'Tree of Life' wins top Cannes fest honor

CANNES, France (AP)—American director Terrence Malick's expansive drama "The Tree of Life" won the top honor at the Cannes Film Festival on Sunday, while Kirsten Dunst took the best-actress prize for the apocalyptic saga "Melancholia."

The Palme d'Or prize was accepted Sunday by two "Tree of Life" producers, Dede Gardner and Bill Pohlad, for the notoriously press-shy Malick, who has skipped all public events at the glamorous Cannes festival.

"I know he would be thrilled with this," Pohlad said.

"Why isn't he here? I'm not saying it's an easy question to answer, but he personally is a very humble guy and a very shy guy," Pohlad said after the awards ceremony. "He just very sincerely wants the work to speak for itself."

Gardner said when it came to the prospect of Cannes prizes, Malick had been "very sweet."

He said, 'If we were that lucky, I'd like to thank my wife Becky and my parents."

"The Tree of Life," which opens Friday in the United States, stars Brad Pitt, Sean Penn and Jessica Chastain in a far-flung story of family life that plays out against a cosmic backdrop, including glorious visuals of the creation of the universe and the era of dinosaurs.

Dunst won for her role in the end-of-the-world tale "Melancholia," whose director, Denmark's Lars von Trier, was banned from the festival after sympathetic remarks for Adolf Hitler at a movie press conference.

"Wow, what a week it's been," said Dunst, who plays a deeply depressed woman coping with her family's foibles as a rogue planet bears down on a possible collision course with Earth.

"It's an honor that is a once-in-a-lifetime thing for an actress," said Dunst, who thanked

festival organizers for allowing "Melancholia" to remain in the competition after von Trier's Nazi remarks and offered warm words for her director. "I want to thank Lars for giving me the opportunity to be so brave."

Von Trier was not allowed to attend Sunday's ceremony.

Jean Dujardin claimed the best-actor prize for the silent film "The Artist," in which he plays a 1920s Hollywood star whose career crumbles as talking pictures become the norm. In keeping with his singing, hoofing character, Dujardin did a little tap dance as he took to the Cannes stage.

Dujardin said he wanted to share his prize with co-star Berenice Bejo, who stood up and blew kisses at him on stage. The film was directed by Bejo's husband, French filmmaker Michel Hazanavicius, who also directed Dujardin in the "OSS 117" spy spoofs.

Dujardin said he wanted to share his prize with co-star Berenice Bejo, who stood up and blew kisses at him on stage. The film was directed by Bejo's husband, French filmmaker Michel Hazanavicius, who also directed Dujardin in the "OSS 117" spy spoofs.



Actress Kirsten Dunst, third from right, recipient of the Best Actress award for the film Melancholia, poses with actors from left, Melanie Laurent, Rosario Dawson, Edgar Ramirez and Marisa Paredes during the awards ceremony at the 64th international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Sunday, May 22, 2011.

of Heaven" on his last trip to Cannes. "The Tree of Life" was shot three years ago and festival organizers had hoped to premiere it at Cannes last year, but it was not ready in time.

Prizes were awarded by a nine-member jury headed by Robert De Niro that included actors Uma Thurman and Jude Law.

"The Tree of Life" was the first American film to win top honors at Cannes since back-to-back recipients in 2003 (Gus

Van Sant's "Elephant" and 2004 (Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11").

De Niro told reporters choosing the top winner was difficult because of the range and "great qualities" among the 20 competing titles but that "The Tree of Life" ultimately fit the bill.

"It had the size, the importance, the intention, whatever you want to call it, that seemed to fit the prize," De Niro said. "Most of us felt the movie was terrific."

Rebooted 'Pirates' sets overseas box office record

NEW YORK (AP)—The reengineered "Pirates of the Caribbean" sequel "On Stranger Tides" found its smooth sailing overseas, where it took in a record \$256.3 million at the international box office, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That surpasses the previous record foreign opening of the sixth "Harry Potter" film, 2009's "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," which earned \$236 million internationally.

Walt Disney co. said "On Stranger Tides," the fourth "Pirates" installment, earned \$90.1 million domestically. Its combined worldwide total is \$346.4 million, the fourth largest global opening ever.

The new 3-D film jettisons co-stars Keira Knightley and Orlando Bloom, but brings back Johnny Depp as Capt. Jack Sparrow. "Chicago" director Rob Marshall took the helm from Gore Verbinski, who directed the trilogy. Penelope Cruz and Ian McShane introduce new characters.

"The whole play of this particular movie was based on a worldwide release because of our feeling of how strong the international marketplace would be," said Chuck Viane, head of distribution at Disney. "Johnny is not just a domestic star. Johnny is an international star."

"On Stranger Tides" was the only new film in wide-release on the weekend. In its second week of release, the acclaimed comedy "Bridesmaids," starring Kristen Wiig, was second at the box office with \$21 million. That was an impressively small decrease of just 20 percent from the Universal re-

lease's opening weekend of \$26.2 million.

The slight decrease was even less than popular comedies like "The Hangover" and "Wedding Crashers," which had similarly sustained business due to strong word-of-mouth.

Last week's top film at the box office, the comic book adaptation "Thor," from Paramount, slid to third place in its third week of release. It earned \$15.5 million, bringing its cumulative total to \$145.4 million.

Making its limited-release debut was Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris," which has received some of the best reviews for Allen in years.

The Sony Pictures Classics release opened in just six theaters, but drew an exceptional per-screen average of more than \$96,000.

Propelled largely by the "Pirates" installment and the continuing success of "Bridesmaids," it was the second "up" weekend in a row as compared with box office figures from the same weekend last year. Next weekend, the three-day Memorial Day weekend, also appears bright, with debuts from "The Hangover Part II" from Warner Bros. and "Kung Fu Panda 2" from Paramount.

Combined with the second weekend of "On Stranger Tides," Dergarabedian expects it to be one of the biggest moviegoing Memorial Day weekends ever.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

Songwriter Brooks apparently kills himself in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Joseph Brooks, the Academy Award-winning songwriter of "You Light Up My Life" who was awaiting trial on charges of sexually assaulting more than a dozen women, was found dead Sunday of an apparent suicide in his Manhattan apartment, police said.

Brooks, 73, was discovered in his Upper East Side apartment around 12:30 p.m. by a friend with whom he had

planned to have lunch, police spokesman Paul Browne said. It was not immediately clear how long his body had been there. The apartment door was ajar, police said.

Brooks' death comes five months after his son was arrested in an unrelated, high-profile case. The son is charged with murdering his girlfriend, whose

body was found in December in an overflowing bathtub at a swank hotel in SoHo.

The elder Brooks was discovered on the living room couch with a plastic dry-cleaning bag around his head and a towel wrapped around his neck, Browne said. A hose attached to a helium tank was hooked up to the bag, he said.



Brooks

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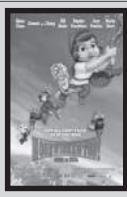
Pirates of the Caribbean: On Strange Tides

Friday & Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
 Mon thru Wed 4:15 7:15

Johnny Depp, Penélope Cruz
 Adventure • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) returns in this fourth entry in the Pirates of the Caribbean film series from Walt Disney Entertainment.



Hoodwinked Too!

Friday & Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:35
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
 Mon thru Wed 4:20 7:20

Heidi Klum, Wayne Newton
 Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis

Unexpectedly summoned back home in the middle of her training with the mysterious Sisters of the Hood, Red teams up with Wolf to investigate the disappearance of Hansel and Gretel in this animated sequel featuring the voices of Hayden Panettiere, Joan Cusack, Martin Short, and Glenn Close.



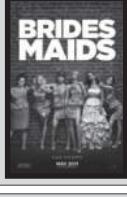
Priest

Friday & Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
 Mon thru Wed 4:10 7:10

Paul Bettany, Cam Gigandet
 Horror, Western • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

Paul Bettany re-teams with Legion director Scott Stewart for this Screen Gems adaptation of the TokyoPop comic. In the film, a priest (Bettany) heads up a team with a sheriff (Cam Gigandet) and a warrior priestess (Maggie Q) to hunt down a vampiric tribe in an attempt to track down his kidnapped niece. True Blood's Stephen Moyer co-stars with 90210's Lily Collins.



Bridesmaids

Friday & Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
 Mon thru Wed 4:00 7:00

Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph
 Comedy drama • Rated R

Something Borrowed

Friday & Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:40
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
 Mon thru Wed 4:25 7:25

Kate Hudson, Ginnifer Goodwin
 Comedy drama • Rated PG 13



Thor

Friday & Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
 Mon thru Wed 4:05 7:05

Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman
 Action • Rated PG 13

Fast Five

Friday & Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
 Mon thru Wed 4:30 7:30

Vin Diesel, Paul Walker
 Action • Rated PG 13

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Singer John Rich named 'Celebrity Apprentice'

NEW YORK (AP)—Country singer John Rich went all the way on "The Celebrity Apprentice," claiming victory and \$250,000 for charity.

He was up against actress Marlee Matlin on Sunday's finale of the NBC reality show.

Host Donald Trump said it was his toughest "Apprentice" ruling yet.

"I've never had to go through something like this... You've both been amazing," Trump told the pair before announcing his choice on the live portion of the program.

This season of "Celebrity

"Apprentice" began airing in March with 16 contestants, each competing in business-oriented tasks around Manhattan to raise money for and publicize their favorite causes. The final challenge had called for competing promotional campaigns for a brand of soda.

Rich now wins a \$250,000 check for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Matlin, who won the 1987 Academy Award for best actress for "Children of a Lesser God," had been playing for the

Starkey Hearing Foundation.

Shortly before the verdict was delivered, the two joined forces to perform a song, "For the Kids," which Rich sang and Matlin, who is deaf, signed evocatively.

Most of the "fired" contestants were back for the live finale. But

one of them, reality-show star Richard Hatch, was conspicuously absent. In the latest chapter of his brushes with the law, he had been returned to prison for tax evasion several weeks ago.

Schwarzenegger's 'The Governator' on hold

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The animated series starring Arnold Schwarzenegger as a superhero is officially on hold.

The companies behind "The Governator" said Friday they have stopped working on the budding franchise that Schwarzenegger helped announce to much fanfare in Cannes, France, last month.

"In light of recent events, A Squared Entertainment, POW,

Stan Lee Comics, and Archie Comics, have halted production" on the project, the companies said in a written statement.

There is no word when or if production on the planned TV series, comic book, movie and video game will resume.

"The Governator" is to star Schwarzenegger as a superhero living a double life: A family man and former governor who

secretly fights global villainy and modern-day disasters alongside a team of hip teenagers.

Schwarzenegger said Thursday that he was postponing his movie projects. He acknowledged earlier this week that he fathered a child out of wedlock more than a decade ago and neglected to tell wife Maria Shriver until this year.

The couple announced their separation last week.

Christina Ricci's Oscars dress goes to Mich. prom

WATERFORD, Mich. (AP)—Lots of teenage girls go all out for their prom, but few get to wear a \$25,000 Versace Couture dress designed for actress Christina Ricci.

Ricci wore the sparkling, pale gray, floor-length dress to this year's Oscars.

Kayla Staskiewicz wore it to Waterford Mott High School's May 13 prom.

The Oakland Press of Pontiac reported Sunday that her father,

Mike Staskiewicz, entered her name in a WDIV-TV contest to win a chance to wear the size 0 dress. Staskiewicz says there was just one question when she learned she'd won: Would it fit?

She says on the station's website that she stepped into the dress the day before the prom, and it fit beautifully.

Staskiewicz told the newspaper she felt "really pretty" and her mom kept calling her Cinderella.

This May 13, 2011 family photo shows Kayla Staskiewicz dressed for the Waterford Mott High School prom in actress Christina Ricci's Oscars dress, a \$25,000 design from Versace Couture, at her home in Waterford, Mich.

AP



SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Royal wedding hat sells for over \$130,000 on eBay

LONDON (AP)—Auction site eBay says a bidder has paid 81,100 pounds (\$131,648) for the silk bow hat worn by Princess Beatrice to last month's royal wedding. The 22-year-old granddaughter of Queen Elizabeth II put the Philip Treacy creation on sale to raise money for UNICEF and Children in Crisis. The silk hat caused a stir at the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton on April 29. Since then, it has been compared to antlers and a pretzel, and has been photoshopped into scores of unlikely scenarios on the Internet. Forty bidders vied for the prize, but eBay did not reveal the identity of the winner. The auction ended Sunday.

Oscar winner Cotillard gives birth to a boy

PARIS (AP)—Oscar-winning French actress Marion Cotillard and her partner—actor-director Guillaume Canet—are parents. The Adequat talent agency said

Friday that the actress gave birth in Paris a day earlier to a boy named Marcel—her first child. Cotillard, 35, won an Academy Award in 2008 for her role as French singing legend Edith Piaf in "La Vie en Rose." She's currently among the stars in Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris." She was nominated for a Golden Globe for her role in "Nine" last year, when she also co-starred with Leonardo DiCaprio in "Inception."

New Crichton novel, 'Micro,' coming in fall

NEW YORK (AP)—A new, posthumous story of science gone wrong is coming in November from the late Michael Crichton, with help by Richard Preston. Crichton, author of such blockbusters as "Jurassic Park" and "The Andromeda Strain" died in 2008 and had written one-third of "Micro," a thriller about a biotech company in Hawaii and the graduate students who end up stranded and endangered in a rain forest. Preston, known for his best-selling nonfiction work about the Ebola

virus, "The Hot Zone," used Crichton's outline, reference materials and notes to finish the book. Publisher HarperCollins announced Sunday that "Micro" would be "a high concept thriller in the vein of 'Jurassic Park.'" In a statement released by HarperCollins, Preston said he was immediately captivated by Crichton's manuscript.

Elisabeth Moss, Fred Armisen finalize divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The divorce of "Mad Men" star Elisabeth Moss from her comedian husband Fred Armisen is final. Los Angeles Superior Court records show Judge Hugh Bobys granted the couple a divorce May 13, roughly eight months after the actress moved to end her marriage to the "Saturday Night Live" star. The pair were married in October 2009 but separated last June. They do not have any children. Moss portrays career-oriented Peggy Olson on AMC's Emmy Award-winning "Mad Men." Armisen has appeared on NBC's "Saturday Night Live" since 2002

and parodies President Barack Obama on the show.

Aminatta Forna wins Commonwealth Prize book award

LONDON (AP)—British-Sierra Leonean writer Aminatta Forna has won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for "The Memory of Love," a tale of war and its legacy set in West Africa. Organizers praised the novel Saturday as an "immensely powerful portrayal of human resilience." Forna was born in Scotland, grew up in Sierra Leone and lives in London. She said the prize "means very many things to me, but mostly that Sierra Leone has one its first literary prizes. We have had a struggle in the past 10 or 15 years and I just hope I have made them proud." The 10,000 pound (\$16,000) prize is open to writers from Britain and the 53-nation Commonwealth. New Zealand writer Craig Cliff won the Commonwealth Best First Book prize for his short story collection "A Man Melting."

Readers have a few tips for miserly hotel guest

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I was shocked and angered by the letter from "West Virginia Traveler" (April 16) on towel usage and tipping hotel housekeepers. His priorities and "knowledge" of hotel staff are seriously skewed. This man is taking his peevishness out on hotel employees who can least afford to take it.

The concierge is paid well to deal with disgruntled guests and make things right. The bellman gets tipped to carry a bag from the lobby to your room. If a doorman calls a cab for you, he gets tipped. If there is a restaurant, the servers are tipped.

The one person who is most critical to making your stay comfortable and pleasant is the maid/housekeeper. She is the one who makes sure you have a clean bathroom, fresh sheets and plenty of toilet paper. She does the grungiest job in the hotel, gets paid very little, is rarely thanked in person and is the last to be tipped. She needs these tips more than anyone else.

I make a point of tipping every single day of my stay, and I have always received the best room service imaginable.

LUANN IN KEENE, N.H.

DEAR LUANN: Thank you for your letter. Housekeepers everywhere will be grateful for your support. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am a housekeeper in a popular hotel chain. Our staff leaves cards in the bathrooms asking our guests to please conserve and hang towels for reuse if possible. Just because you can be wasteful, it doesn't mean you should.

JENNIFER IN CANADA

DEAR ABBY: "Traveler" said not a single housekeeper has been "exceptional." What about the simple fact that housekeepers clean up his mess during his stay? They take out his trash, refresh his towels and replace used soaps and shampoos. Housekeepers vacuum anything tracked in, remake beds, wipe down the sink and bath/showers.

I can say from personal experience that many hotel guests wouldn't leave their homes in the condition they leave their hotel rooms, and sadly, they feel that it's acceptable. Housekeepers work hard to provide a clean and comfortable room prior to a guest's arrival, and strive to maintain that comfort throughout the guest's stay. In addition, they will fulfill any request within their abilities. I'd say this alone is pretty darn "exceptional."

GUEST SERVICE REP IN UTAH

DEAR ABBY: Leaving a tip for housekeeping in a hotel is a matter of social responsibility/social justice. A striking majority of hotel maids are women—many of color, invariably in a lower income bracket and, often, single mothers. They work extraordinarily hard for less than minimum wage in cities where the cost of living is much higher than their incomes. In other words, they are not paid a living wage. Consider it a "mitzvah" (a blessing) to leave a tip. It can make a difference between a family "getting by" and one that is drowning. This is about doing the right thing.

AN M.D. IN MONTE SERENO, CALIF.

DEAR ABBY: Why would someone make insulting remarks and then say, "I'm only kidding"? My husband constantly berates and insults me. Why does he want to hurt me all the time? Am I being too sensitive or is he being cruel?

FEELING INSECURE IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR FEELING INSECURE: You're not being too sensitive; what your husband is doing IS cruel. It's also cowardly. I don't know why he wants to hurt you. But the question you should be asking is not why he wants to hurt you, but rather, why you continue to tolerate it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

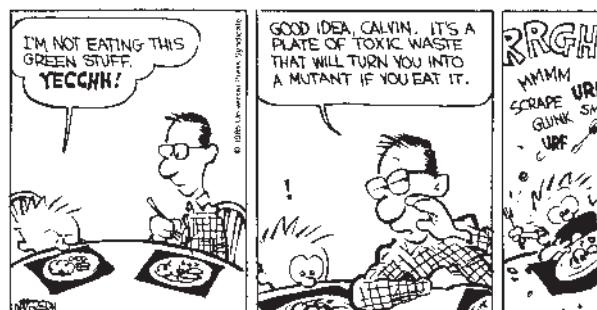
Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)



Dear Abby

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



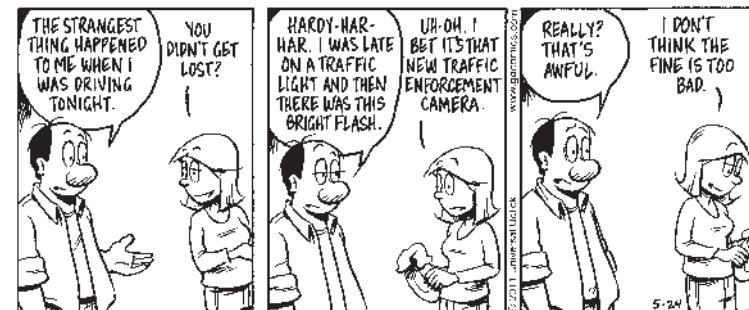
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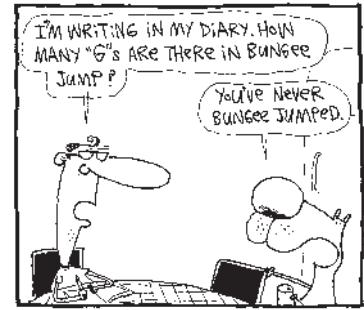
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset



The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

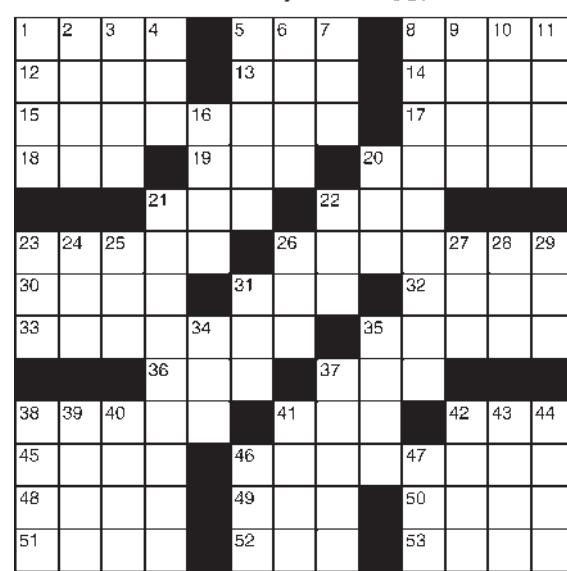


CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37	Accomplished	2	Met	23	Mahal	
1 King or queen	38	Inhibit	3	Tear	24	Rd.	
5 — Na Na	41	With 42-Across	4	Old man	25	Claiborne	
8 On the rocks	42	“Little”	5	Bo-Peep’s	26	canto	
12 Neighborhood	43	storybook character	6	Informal	27	Important	
13 With it	44	greeting	7	Part of	28	numero	
14 Challenge	45	Places	8	DJIA	29	New	
15 Visual memory	46	Psych-out tactic	9	England	30	England	
17 Valhalla VIP	47	“Once — a time, ...”	10	cape	31	Shriner’s	
18 Tablet	48	“Golly!”	11	chapeau	32	chapeau	
19 Mauna —	49	Great Lake	12	34	33	Jazz	
20 Beginning	50	Foolish one	13	Jazz style	34	style	
21 Pinch	51	Hodge-podge	14	35	35	legendary	
22 Vanna’s cohort	52	Flex	15	pirate	36	pirate	
23 Stories	53	“Golly!”	16	captain	37	captain	
26 Island whose capital is Hamilton	DOWN	“Free”	17	38	38	organization	
30 Tel —	1	Bivouac	18	Forget it	39	39	Lasso
31 Not many	2	seat	19	22	40	40	PC
32 Part of the loop	3	Solution time: 21 mins.	20	Church	41	41	picture
33 Wicked woman of the Bible	4	RAM	21	1	42	42	Get up
35 Familiar Chast	5	IDEA	22	2	43	43	Head light?
36 Cartoonist	6	NASH	23	3	44	44	Eastern potentate
	7	NILL	24	4	45	45	Inert gas
	8	GASP	25	5	46	46	Periodical, for short
	9	DRAWL	26	6	47	47	Lump
	10	TIDE	27				
	11	ION	28				
	12	BINDER	29				
	13	JEALOUS					
	14	SEINE					
	15	AVID					
	16	TAP					
	17	VID					
	18	MEDEA					
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	21	WOE					
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Yesterday's answer 5-24



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STUMPED?

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	5		2	6				
		1	5		3			
7				2	8			
	2					6		
	5	9	2	6	3	7	8	
6			4			9		
	1	8					4	
	6		1	9				
	4	3			6			

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Monday's SUDOKU Answer

4	9	7	8	2	6	3	1	5
6	8	1	5	4	3	7	2	9
5	2	3	9	1	7	8	6	4
9	1	5	6	3	2	4	7	8
3	7	6	4	5	8	2	9	1
2	4	8	7	9	1	6	5	3
8	3	2	1	6	9	5	4	7
7	5	9	2	8	4	1	3	6
1	6	4	3	7	5	9	8	2

Difficulty Level ★

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

IGUANAS

By DAVID OUELLET

Solution: 7 letters

C	S	L	E	N	O	C	T	L	R	K	N	I	P	S
I	A	H	A	C	S	B	S	R	I	T	A	E	H	
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A	C	X	O	E	R	C	R	T	A	P	A	T	P	D
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Bosh scores 34; Heat top Bulls for 2-1 lead



MIAMI (AP)—Chris Bosh missed his first three shots, and never worried.

He was in rhythm. He was catching the ball where he wanted. And then midway through the first quarter, he finally saw the ball go through the hoop for the first time.

"That was good enough for me," Bosh said.

And more than good enough for the Miami Heat—who are now two wins from the NBA finals.

Bosh made 13 of his final 15 shots on the way to a 34-point night, LeBron James finished with 22 points and 10 assists, and the Heat remained unbeaten at home in the postseason by beating the Chicago Bulls 96-85 in Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals on Sunday.

The Heat lead the series 2-1, and the blowout Game 1 defeat in Chicago a week ago seems far, far away for Miami.

"There is absolutely nothing easy in this series," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "It's still all about enduring, sustaining and finding a way to grind it out."

Dwyane Wade added 17 points and nine rebounds for Miami, which is 7-0 at home in the playoffs and handed the team that finished with the NBA's best record its first losing streak since Feb. 5-7. Udonis Haslem sealed it with a jumper with 1:29 left, putting Miami up 93-84.

Game 4 is Tuesday in Miami.

Carlos Boozer finished with 26 points and 17 rebounds for Chicago, which had won the first four meetings of the season with Miami. Derrick Rose finished with 20 points, but struggled from the field again, making only 8 of his 19 shots.

The Bulls held James and Wade to a combined 12-of-30 showing from the floor. Against Bosh, they had no answer.

"It's definitely frustrating," Rose

said. "Our will wasn't there tonight. They still found a way to win."

Against the NBA's top field-goal percentage defense this season, Miami shot 51 percent and scored 53 points after halftime. Plus, the Heat were 25 of 29 from the foul line, while Chicago was 16 for 21.

"Rebounding was good," Chicago coach Tom Thibodeau said. "Challenging their shots wasn't."

That was especially true for one critical stretch of the fourth quarter, when Miami turned a four-point game into one where it had full control. A 9-0 spurt, capped by a three-point play from James with 5:07 left, was all it took to give the Heat an 87-74 edge, and the margin never was less than seven again.

So, meet the leading scorer in the East finals.

It's not Rose, Wade or James. It's Bosh—who took a bit of heat before the series began, when Boozer was quoted saying that Miami has only two great players, a clear nod toward the Heat having a so-called "Big Three."

"I always have respect," Boozer said Sunday night, asked about Bosh's game. "I never didn't have it."

It's mildly ironic that they're going head-to-head in this series, given how last summer went.

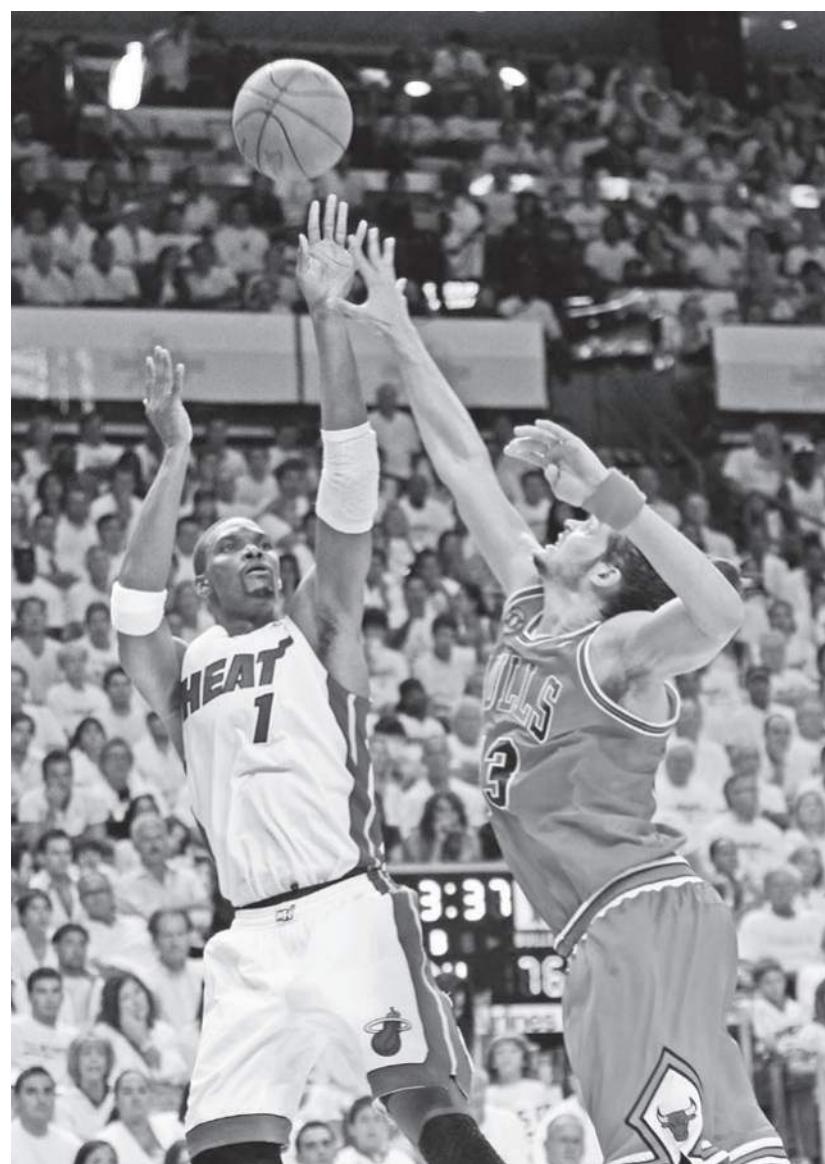
The Bulls and Boozer agreed on a five-year deal worth around \$80 million, those talks wrapping up almost simultaneously with Bosh—who was a Chicago target last summer as well-decided to join Miami.

On Sunday, Bosh could have taken a victory lap after the two-great-players comment by Boozer. He declined.

"C-B had it going," James said. "When we have someone going on our team, we continue to go to him."

Boozer made a pair of free throws with 6:39 left to get Chicago within 78-74, the outcome clearly hanging in the balance. Minutes later, that was no longer the case—not after Miami scored nine straight to build more than enough of a cushion.

James, Wade and Rose all tumbled into courtside photographers while trying to make plays in the first five minutes, and Haslem was greeted by a huge roar when he entered—his first home appearance since Nov. 19—later in the opening period.



Miami Heat's Chris Bosh (1) goes up for a shot against Chicago Bulls' Joakim Noah during the second half of Game 3 of the NBA Eastern Conference finals basketball series in Miami, Sunday, May 22, 2011.

Eventually, the emotional swings calmed down, and offense picked up in the second quarter.

Boozer only missed one of his five shots in the second period, after going 0 for 5 to begin the game. Bosh was 5 for 5 in the second quarter on his way to 16 points by halftime.

"Chris is a professional," Wade said. "He's stuck with it. He did what we

wanted him to do in that series. This series, he's really playing big for us."

As for the past two NBA MVPs, everything was a battle.

Rose finished the first half with no assists, just the 11th time in his career that's happened. He did have 11 points by intermission, when Miami led 43-40—meaning it held Chicago to 69 points in a 48-minute span dating to the midpoint of Game 2.

And James, who was the MVP in 2009 and 2010 before Rose took the trophy this season, was only 3 for 8 in the first three quarters. He did have 10 assists by the end of the third, though Miami let what was its biggest lead slip a bit in the final moments of that period.

Miami pushed the lead to nine late in the third, then most of that edge disappeared quickly. Luol Deng made a 3-pointer to get Chicago within 68-65, then stole Mike Miller's inbounds pass with 5.2 seconds left and got a good look at a jumper that rimmed out with a second left.

"That's obviously not the way we want to finish the quarter," Spoelstra said.

The fourth quarter, that was different.

"It's a long series," James said. "Still."

The Bulls spent part of their pre-game debunking a report by ESPN The Magazine, which quoted Rose saying the league had a "huge" issue with performance-enhancing drugs in a story published earlier this month. Rose denied it Sunday, saying he does not recall being asked that question and insisting that he does not believe the NBA has a problem.

Another issue for the Bulls popped up in the first quarter. Joakim Noah went to the bench after picking up his second foul with 6:26 left, and after taking a seat television cameras showed him appearing to direct a profanity toward someone seated nearby.

"I got caught up," Noah said. "A fan said something and I said something back. I apologize."

The NBA did not comment on either matter.

Zach Johnson also shot a closing 65 to finish at 9 under in fourth place, while Robert Karlsson (67) and Chez Reavie (68) were 8 under.

After a bogey at No. 4 when his tee shot at the difficult 247-yard par 3 missed the green left, Wi quickly rebounded by draining a 35-foot birdie putt at the 481-yard 5th hole. He pumped his right fist and smiled, still with a three-stroke with Toms still even on the day.

But things soon started to change.

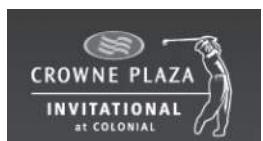
At No. 6, Toms putted off the fringe with an 18-foot birdie chance that slid just past the hole. He still gained a stroke when Wi missed a 4-foot par putt. The margin was down to one after Toms' birdie at the 440-yard No. 7 hole, when he hit his approach to 10 feet.

Wi made another birdie on the 192-yard 16th hole Sunday, an 8-footer. But Toms sank a 4 1/2-foot par to maintain his two-stroke edge, and give him a needed margin since he bogeyed the 17th hole after his approach into a greenside bunker.

"It was nerve-racking, I can tell you right now, I was shaking on the greens," Toms said.

"I kept it interesting until the last hole," Wi said, "so I'm very pleased with that."

Toms rallies at Colonial for 13th career win



F O R T
WORTH,
T e x a s
(AP)—Da-
vid Toms

was beginning to wonder if he could ever win again on the PGA Tour. Now he has the most satisfying victory of all.

More than five years after he last won, a week after losing in a playoff and a day after blowing a seven-stroke lead at Colonial to go into the final round trailing, the 44-year-old Toms shot a 3-under 67 on Sunday to win at Hogan's Alley.

"I'm not dreaming, am I? This is actually happening, right?" Toms asked when he entered the interview room wearing the championship plaid jacket. "Wow, I didn't know if this day would ever come again."

Toms regained the lead for good from Charlie Wi with an eagle with a wedge shot from 83 yards at the par-5 11th hole, and finished 15 under—a stroke ahead of Wi.

"It's one of the most perfect shots I've ever hit," Toms said.

Toms' long-elusive 13th career vic-

tory came a week after a playoff loss to K.J. Choi at The Players Championship, when he missed a short par putt on the extra hole for his sixth runner-up finish since last winning in January 2006 at the Sony Open in Hawaii.

"To win after this time frame and to come back after what happened last week certainly means more to me than any other victory," said Toms, the 2001 PGA Championship winner.

Wi started the final round with a one-shot lead that he quickly expanded with birdies on the first two holes. He finished with a 69 for his fourth career runner-up finish without a win.

"It's great to finish second on the PGA Tour anytime, but it's a little bittersweet," Wi said. "I had a three-shot lead after the first two holes and thought I had a pretty good handle on myself, in control. ... I certainly didn't give it to him. He definitely earned it."

After that playoff loss at TPC Sawgrass, Toms had an opening 62 at Colonial for his best score in 429 rounds—since a career-best 61 during his Hawaii victory. Toms followed with another bogey-free 62 to match the PGA

Tour scoring record for the first 36 holes of a tournament (124), and opened the third round with another birdie.

At 17 under through 37 holes and seemingly in control, Toms instead had three bogeys in the next five holes. There was later a three-putt from 7 1/2 feet for double bogey and Wi took the lead with a 32-foot birdie at the par-3 16th Saturday.

Wi, the 39-year-old South Korean who made his 100th cut on the PGA Tour this weekend, had the two opening birdies Sunday while playing partner Toms missed both greens but managed pars.

Toms finally caught up at 13 under after Wi missed the green with his approach at the par-4 10th and two-putted from 13 feet for a bogey.

"The momentum I think started (to change) on 10, because I was one shot ahead of him and I was in the middle of the fairway," Wi said. "The killer was my poor drive on 12."

The clincher for Toms came on Colonial's longest hole, the 635-yard 11th.

After laying up to a perfect spot short of the green, and Wi's ball sitting

in a frontside bunker, Toms' wedge shot from 83 yards bounced once, landed just behind the pin and then rolled back into the cup.

"When something like that happens, it's like it's meant to me," Toms said.

Toms pumped his arms over his head with a wide smile on his face before Wi blasted to 4 1/2 feet for a birdie putt that still had him a stroke behind.

Wi then hit out of the same fairway bunker twice at the par-4 12th hole after his errant drive. He managed a bogey after finally hitting out of the fairway to 7 feet, but Toms' 5-foot par stretched his lead to two strokes.

Toms became the first player on the PGA Tour to rebound from a playoff loss one week to winning the next since 2000, when Phil Mickelson won at Colonial after losing in a playoff at the Byron Nelson Championship.

A day before his wedding anniversary, and a previously planned two-week break after four consecutive tournaments, Toms earned a check of \$1.116 million.

Bo Van Pelt (65) finished third at 10 under. Defending Colonial champion

Cabrera's 2 homers power Indians over Reds, 12-4



CLEVELAND

(AP)—Asdrubal Cabrera made five hits from five pitches with two home runs and five RBIs as the Cleveland Indians completed a three-game sweep of the Cincinnati Reds with a 12-4 win in interleague play Sunday.

Cabrera hit a two-run homer in the first inning off Edinson Volquez (3-2) for the Indians, who did early damage after winning the series' first two games with late-inning comebacks. Cabrera added a solo homer in the sixth to give Cleveland an 8-4 lead.

Yankees 9, Mets 3

At New York, Derek Jeter leveled the score with a two-run single that sparked an eight-run rally in the seventh inning and Alex Rodriguez drove in the go-ahead run with yet another hit as the Yankees pummeled the Mets in the finale of their weekend Subway Series.

In a slump for most of the season, Jeter hit a two-run, bases-loaded single off Mike Pelfrey (3-4) that made it 3-all—just the second time since Aug. 11 that Jeter tied the score or put the Yankees ahead from the seventh inning on.

Rodriguez hit a 60-foot roller toward third that left Willie Harris with no play as Brett Gardner sprinted home.

Red Sox 5, Cubs 1

At Boston, Tim Wakefield held Chicago to four hits in 6 2-3 innings, and Adrian Gonzalez had four hits of his own as Boston sent the Chicago Cubs home after their first visit to Fenway Park since the 1918 World Series.

Boston took two out of three from Chicago and has now won eight of its last nine games to move one-half game behind the New York Yankees and Tam-

pa Bay in the American League East.

Making his third start of the season, this one because of injuries to John Lackey and Daisuke Matsuzaka, Wakefield (1-1) struck out three and walked none before leaving with two out in the seventh.

Rangers 2, Phillies 0

At Philadelphia, Matt Harrison allowed just five hits into the ninth inning to help Texas avoid a three-game sweep to Philadelphia.

Harrison (4-4) struck out three, walked three and threw 117 pitches in his longest outing of the season, finishing two outs shy of his first shutout since 2009.

Neftali Feliz got the final two outs for his ninth save.

Rays 4, Marlins 0

At Miami, James Shields pitched a three-hitter with a career-high 13 strikeouts as Tampa Bay avoided a three-game sweep to Florida.

Shields (5-2) walked just one in his second shutout and third complete game of the season. He didn't allow a baserunner past first base until the ninth inning and had nine strikeouts in the last four innings.

The victory snapped a three-game losing streak for the Rays, who haven't been swept by their intrastate rivals since 2007.

Astros 3, Blue Jays 2

At Toronto, Hunter Pence hit a two-run homer and Wandy Rodriguez pitched six solid innings as Houston held off Toronto to win a series for the first time in three weeks.

Houston, which had lost 11 of 14 coming in, won its first series since tak-

ing two of three from Milwaukee between April 29 and May 1.

Rodriguez (3-3) allowed two runs and six hits. He walked two and struck out six.

Orioles 2, Nationals 1

At Baltimore, Vladimir Guerrero's two-run homer in the seventh inning spoiled Jordan Zimmermann's stellar outing and lifted Baltimore over Washington.

Through the first six innings, Zimmermann (2-5) was nearly perfect, allowing just two baserunners on a walk and a double in the second inning. He had retired 13 straight.

Tigers 2, Pirates 0

At Pittsburgh, Rick Porcello allowed one hit over eight innings as Detroit beat Pittsburgh to snap a five-game losing streak.

Porcello (4-2) took a no-hitter into the sixth before giving up Ronny Cedeno's leadoff double. He struck out three and walked two in his first start in nearly two weeks.

Jose Valverde worked out of a two-on, none-out jam in the ninth to earn his 11th save in 11 opportunities.

White Sox 8, Dodgers 3

At Chicago, Alexei Ramirez homered and drove in a career-high five runs as the Chicago White Sox beat the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Ramirez hit a two-run homer in the first inning, then added an RBI double in the third, a run-scoring single in the fourth and another RBI double in the eighth for the White Sox, who have won 11 of 15.

Cardinals 9, Royals 8, 10 innings

At Kansas City, Missouri, Colby Ras-

mus drew a bases-loaded walk—his fifth free pass of the day—that forced in the go-ahead run in the 10th as St. Louis walked 13 times in a victory over Kansas City.

Every walk Rasmus drew was off a different pitcher. The Cardinals had 12 hits, a hit batter and reached on an error in the 4 hour, 9 minute game.

Angels 4, Braves 1

At Anaheim, California, Torii Hunter ended a home run drought of 28 games with a go-ahead shot off Derek Lowe and rookie Tyler Chatwood pitched seven strong innings as the Los Angeles Angels beat Atlanta.

Chatwood (3-2) allowed a run and five hits, struck out six and walked two. Jordan Walden got three outs for his eighth save in 11 chances.

Mariners 6, Padres 1

At San Diego, Felix Hernandez equaled his career high with 13 strikeouts in eight dominant innings to lead Seattle over San Diego.

Hernandez (5-4) allowed one run and six hits without a walk as the Mariners won their fifth straight and completed a three-game sweep. Seattle held a commanding advantage over San Diego in runs (14-2) and hits (32-14) while striking out 35 Padres batters in the series.

The Mariners have yielded two runs or less in their last seven games.

Giants 5, Athletics 4, 11 innings

At San Francisco, Emmanuel Burriss singled home the winning run in the 11th inning as San Francisco completed a three-game sweep of cross-bay rival Oakland.

Burriss' line drive off reliever Brian

Fuentes (1-6) scored speedy Darren Ford from second. Ford just beat right fielder Ryan Sweeney's throw to the plate, sending the Giants running out of the dugout to celebrate their fifth straight victory and seventh walk-off win this season.

Pinch-hitter Nate Schierholtz hit a tying, two-run homer in the eighth off Grant Balfour.

Diamondbacks 3, Twins 2

At Phoenix, Juan Miranda homered and Daniel Hudson had an RBI single to go with eight strong innings on the mound as Arizona beat Minnesota to complete a three-game sweep.

The Diamondbacks won their sixth straight, their longest run in three seasons, and eighth in nine games to climb to .500 (23-23) for the first time since April 20.

Miranda, 9 for 18 on the homestand with five RBIs, left in the eighth after being hit in the right wrist by a pitch.

Hudson (5-5) allowed two runs, including Delmon Young's first homer of the season, with six strikeouts and no walks to improve to 5-1 in his last six starts. Alex Burnett (0-3) took the loss.

Brewers 3, Rockies 1

At Milwaukee, Ryan Braun hit a two-run triple off Ubaldo Jimenez and scored on a throwing error to lift Milwaukee to a three-game sweep over Colorado.

Jimenez (0-4) threw the seventh complete game of his career and allowed only two hits, but struggled to find the strike zone with five walks and a hit batter.

He also received little support from the rest of the Rockies' sputtering offense.

Braun scored in the third after center fielder Dexter Fowler tried to make a diving catch, then compounded the problem by committing a throwing error.

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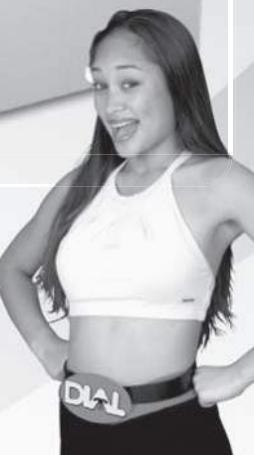
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IT&E Voyagers, Best Choice lead divisions



Jonny's Bar & Grill's IT&E Voyagers and D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Best Choice are the current frontrunners in the Saipan Billiards Association Budweiser Open 8-Ball League's Agingan and Obyan divisions after the conclusion of last Tuesday's matchups.

IT&E Voyagers top the four-team Agingan field after downing Fotten Palau, 6-1, on the road at USSP Peleliu Club.

They hold a 61-23 record, while

sister teams Home Boyz and IT&E Incredibles out of Buddies' Bar & Grill, are tied for second place with identical slates of 55-29. The Docomo Hustlers of Utopia Sports Bar reside in last with a 52-32 card.

Best Choice, meanwhile, defeated Shark Attack, 5-2, in a road match at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill. Best Choice heads the six-team Obyan division at 44-40.

Fotten Palau sits in second at 35-49 defeats with VFW Post 3457's X-Tream a game behind in third. Shark

Tigilau clinches RGA May Ace

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

REPORTER



Ray Tigilau claimed the Refaluwasch Golfers Association May Ace after besting seven other golfers in last Sunday's monthly tournament at the Marianas Country Club.

Tigilau tamed the Marpi course

with his net 69, becoming the only RGA member to post a net score in the 60s. The 12-handicapper fired a 43 on the front and played better on the back with a 39 for a gross 82.

He won by three strokes against Dwaine Stephens, who tallied a net 72. The 13-handicapper Stephens carded a gross 85 built on a 44 and 41 on the front and back nines, respectively. Rounding out the Top 3 was Jesse Seman, who logged a net 76.

finals berth after a 7-5, 6-1 win over Johnson. Johnson arranged a semis tiff against Thea after a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Yuri Song.

In the girls U10 singles, four players are still in the hunt for the championship. Tania Tan notched a semis slot after an 8-1 win over Gillian Villagomez and will be facing Ami Tsukagoshi, who prevailed over Sally Hwang, 8-2.

hurdles. In the final day, events lined up are the discus, shotput, triple jump, 200m, 3,000m and 1,500m races, 400m hurdles, and the unique medley relay.

The medley relay is for a team of four runners (two males and two females) and the first runner should be female and will race 100m. The second runner, a male, will also run 100m, while the third (female) and fourth (male) will cover a dis-

Friday's matchups, meanwhile, saw Ebisuya-Fixers down Inchcape, 80-72, and World Resort maul Cellular Pro, 79-65.

Fixers jumped in front early in the opener as Tim Wesley and John Artates teamed up for 11 markers in the first quarter to give the Fixers a 21-14 advantage.

Fixers hung tough on defense in the second period and maintained a 36-30 advantage at the break.

Inchcape threw all they had at the Fixers, but only managed to chip one more point from the deficit, 51-55, after three quarters.

Wesley and Joyner combined for 15 points in the period.

Inchcape sank eight free throws in the fourth, but every time it postured a threat, the Fixers came up with an answer. Joyner delivered 13 points at crunch time to seal the deal. He and Wesley turned in 20 markers apiece, while Inchcape's Jun Pantaleon and Jun Tabora combined for 53 in the loss, the team's third in six games.

In the second game, World Resort's

og, and assistant coach Joe Inas King.

The 13-player Senior All-Stars include Harvey and Devin Atalig, Ramon Castro Jr., Henry, David Dre and Christopher Manglona, Dominic Mendiola, Samson and Tasi Lizama, Isaiah, Austin Masga, Aldine Mendiola, Aleton and Blaine Mesngon, Shane Ogo, Anton Salazar, Daniel Rangamar Jr., and Francisco Toves and is under manager Oscar Quitugua, head coach Paterno Hocog, and assistant coach Glenn Masga.

Attack (31-53), USSP Turtles (28-56), and D'Pirates' Pirates (25-59) are bringing up the rear.

In other results, Pirates upset X-Tream, 4-3, in a home match; IT&E Incredibles defeated the Docomo Hustlers, 5-2, at home; and the Home Boyz knocked off the Turtles, 5-2, at home.

Agingan notables include one-time 8-ball sinkers Home Boyz' Mario Diola and IT&E Voyagers' Jojo Talibong, while IT&E Incredibles' Chester Hamoy has ran the rack five times this season.

Seman drilled a 44 on the front and 39 on the back and deducting his seven handicap, he ended up seven strokes behind Tigilau.

Other RGA members who joined the May Ace tournament were Tom Tebuteb (84), Tony Rogolifoi (84), Carl Hocog (74), Ned Norita (83), and Tony Satur (74). The 5-handicapper Satur recorded the lowest gross of the day with his 79, nailing a 39 and 40 on the front and back nine, respectively.

Satur also had the closest to the pin shot on the par-3 No. 12, while Tigilau

Mimi Sakano and Malika Miyawaki will duel in the other semis pairing after topping Catherine Atalig, 8-2, and Hana Nelson, 8-3, respectively.

In the round-robin U12 singles, Isabel Heras won her first two games. Heras first played against Liza Atalig last Sunday at PIC and prevailed, 6-4, 6-1. Then after two hours, Heras went

to AMP to battle and beat Julia Ishikawa, 6-3, 6-3.

Carol Lee also played at AMP and clobbered Liza Atalig last Saturday, 6-0, 6-1. Three more games in the U12 singles will take place this weekend before the winner is decided.

Also scheduled this weekend are games in the boys and girls U18 and U12 doubles.

did the same on hole No. 6. Meanwhile, RGA's next tournament will be the June Ace qualifier on June 5 at the Kingfisher Golf Links. Check-in time is at 11am, while tee off is at 12pm. The club is also encouraging its members to join the HANMI Golf Classic on June 4.

RGA is still open for membership at \$25 annually. For more information about RGA tournaments, contact Tars Olopai at 483-5508, Tony Rogolifoi at 288-3515, and Jess Wabol at 288-1129.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	25	20	.556	—
Tampa Bay	26	21	.553	—
Boston	25	21	.543	1/2
Toronto	23	23	.500	2 1/2
Baltimore	21	24	.467	4

Central Division

Cleveland	29	15	.659	—
Detroit	23	23	.500	7
Kansas City	22	24	.478	8
Chicago	22	26	.458	9
Minnesota	15	30	.333	14 1/2

West Division

Texas	24	23	.511	—
Los Angeles	24	24	.500	1/2
Seattle	22	24	.478	1 1/2
Oakland	22	25	.468	2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	28	18	.609	—
Florida	26	19	.578	1 1/2
Atlanta	26	23	.531	3 1/2
New York	22	24	.478	6
Washington	21	25	.457	7

Central Division

St. Louis	28	20	.583	—
Cincinnati	25	22	.532	2 1/2
Milwaukee	24	23	.511	3 1/2
Pittsburgh	22	24	.478	5
Chicago	20	25	.444	6 1/2
Houston	17	30	.362	10 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	27	19	.587	—
Colorado	23	22	.511	3 1/2
Arizona	23	23	.500	4
Los Angeles	21	27	.438	7
San Diego	19	28	.404	8 1/2

Yesterday's Games

Cleveland 12, Cincinnati 4

N.Y. Yankees 9, N.Y. Mets 3

Houston 3, Toronto 2

Tampa Bay 4, Florida 0

Detroit 2, Pittsburgh 0

Texas 2, Philadelphia 0

Baltimore 2, Washington 1

Milwaukee 3, Colorado 1

Chicago White Sox 8, L.A. Dodgers 3

St. Louis 9, Kansas City 8, 10 innings

L.A. Angels 4, Atlanta 1

San Francisco 5, Oakland 4, 11 innings

Seattle 6, San Diego 1

Arizona 3, Minnesota 2

Boston 5, Chicago Cubs 1

COLONIAL SCORES

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—Final scores Sunday at the Colonial, a \$6.2 million PGA Tour event played at the par-70, 7,204-yard Colonial Country Club:

FINAL ROUND

David Toms (500), \$1,116,000	62-62-74-67-265
Charlie Wi (300), \$669,600	64-67-66-69-266
Bo Van Pelt (190), \$421,600	68-69-68-65-270
Zach Johnson (135), \$297,600	68-69-69-65-271
Robert Karlsson (105), \$235,600	69-68-68-67-272
Chez Reavie (105), \$235,600	62-71-71-68-272
Kevin Stadler (90), \$207,700	69-68-69-67-273</td

Top Athletes of McDonald's/PSS All Schools



U10 top athlete Roca Kasian of Koblerville Elementary School gets her trophy.



Koblerville Elementary School's Maya Ngemaes, second right, is joined by her principal Rizalina Purugganan in receiving the U8 top athlete trophy from McDonald's store manager Marcia Ayuyu, left, and PSS representative Jonas Barcina during the recognition ceremony for the 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships at McDonald's Middle Road.



Whisperings Palms' Naoki Kasai shows his U8 top athlete trophy and is joined by family members during the presentation. Also in the photo is Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong, left.



Koblerville Elementary School's Coby Santos holds her U10 top athlete photo.



Hopwood's Juan Babauta, second right, is joined by Hopwood principal Jonas Barcina during the awards presentation.



Saipan Community School's Tammy Ackerman wins the U12 female top athlete award.



Tanapag Elementary School's John Quitugua Jr., third right, poses with his teachers and family members during the awards presentation.



U14 best female athlete Lyndin Johnson, third right, is joined by her parents in receiving her award.

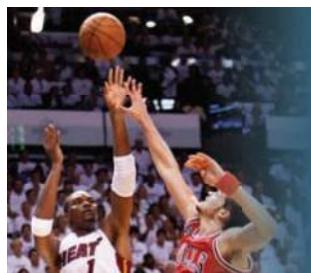


Marianas High School's Lia Rangamar, right, and Rachel Abrams, third left, share the U18 female top athlete award.



Marianas High School's Ryan Ichihara, second right, and Jim Lacsina, third left, hold the U18 male top athlete award.

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Bosh scores 34; Heat top Bulls for 2-1 lead
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Cabrera's 2 homers power Indians over Reds, 12-4
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28 TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Finals rematch in DFS tourney



Thea Minor



Theecel Minor

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Mikayla Lopez and Melody Johnson will square off anew in the finals after downing separate foes in the girls U15 singles division in the 2011 DFS Junior Championships over the weekend.

Lopez claimed the semis ticket in the upper half of the draw after recording two wins last

weekend. She first swept Jasmin Rayphand last Saturday at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts,

6-0, 6-1, and then routed Adele Hudkins in the semifinals last Sunday also at PIC, 6-1, 6-0.

Johnson played her opening match also at PIC and won over first-time U15 competitor Tammy Ackerman, 6-2, 6-3. Johnson then made it to the finals after a 6-2, 6-0 triumph over Negahr Rastguyi. Rastguyi met Emily Jones at the American Memorial Park tennis courts and prevailed, 6-1,

6-1, before bowing to Johnson in the semifinals.

Johnson, who lost to Lopez in last year's DFS tournament, 1-6, 1-6, will try to grab the championship in their title match this weekend.

In the girls U18 singles, a finals rematch will also take place this weekend between sisters Theecel and Thea Minor.

Theecel Minor advanced to See **FINALS** on Page 26



NMA hosts Marianas National Championships



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Southern High School's Brandon Philip, left, and Marianas High School's Ryan Ichihara, seen here in a neck-and-neck race in the 200m run early this month, are expected to compete in this weekend's Marianas Athletics Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Athletics will be hosting the 2011 Marianas National Championships this weekend with two school clubs from Guam competing against the CNMI bets at the Oleai Sports Complex.

"Two school clubs from Guam have confirmed their participation and hope to showcase their talents against the young and up and coming CNMI squad," NMA developmental coach Elias Rangamar said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Twenty events are lined up in the tournament that will be played this Friday and Saturday and will feature competi-

See **NMA** on Page 26



Rota unveils 2011 all-star rosters

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Rota Little League Association has announced its 2011 all-star team rosters for this year's 15th Annual CNMI District Little League Baseball Championship that will be hosted by Rota from May 27 to May 30.

Teams from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will duke it out this weekend to see who gets to represent the Commonwealth in the Asia-Pacific Regional Tournament in the Major, Junior, Se-

nior, and Big league divisions.

The 14-member Rota Major League All-Stars are made up of George Barcina, Brandon Cabrera, Austin Lizama, Deon, Fidel and Randall Manglona, Francisco Maratita, Brian, Chrisler, and Noah Mendiola, Coby and Cyan-Kei Ogo, Noah Quitugua, and Terrence Taimanao and are under manager Patrick T. Cabrera, head coach Clifford Ogo, and Luis Hocog.

The 14-player Junior squad is composed of Keann Barci-

See **ROTA** on Page 26



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Ebisuya-Fixer Danny Bicera goes up for a reverse layup against Inchcape's defenders in last Friday's Miller Lite caging matchup at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Hot Shots defuses World Resort, 87-78

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Island Apparel-Hot Shots recovered from a four-point deficit entering the fourth quarter to beat Hanwa-Saipan World Resort, 87-78, in last Sunday's 2011 Miller Lite Friendly Invitational Basketball League at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

Hot Shots improved its win-loss card to 3-3, while the loss dropped World Resort to 5-2.

Hot Shots' Junar Guiab and Manolo Manalo combined for 21 points in the opening period that helped the team build an early 27-23 lead.

World Resort battled back in the second quarter and tied the game at 44-all, as James Wabinga led the charge with 10 points.

See **HOT** on Page 26

